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REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS.

DR. CROLY AND THE FOUNDLING HOSPITAL.

Sermons Preached in the Chapel of the Foundling Hospital, with others Preached in St. Stephen's, Walbrook, in 1847. By the Rev. Geo. Croly, LL.D. 8vo. Smith, Elder, and Co.

We rarely go into any detail upon published sermons, as we deem it better to leave theology to its professors. But there are two or three points connected with this volume which induce us to devote a few lines to it. First, the eloquence of the preacher is a certain claim. Next, the schism which caused him to retire from the preacher'ship of the Foundling so soon after his being elected to that duty, and which is denounced in the preface. And, lastly, the popular nature of some of the discourses applicable to civil circumstances, and to conditions of interest to the country at the present time.

The preface to which we have alluded is sufficiently pungent for Christian charity; and the eloquent Dr. when he chooses to lay the lash on what he considers to be misconduct, can certainly perform the task with a trenchant force. "One of my prominent objects, (he says) I may sincerely say, was, to have the opportunity of more extended duty, of exercising a more effective Christian influence, and of preaching the Gospel to a new and remarkably intellectual congregation. But I knew little of churches and committees.

"The chief charitable institutions have at the head of their lists a number of names of rank, or official distinction. Those persons, however, seldom take the slightest part in the conduct of the institution. The acting committee is, as seldom, worth an observation. It generally consists of elderly men, who having nothing on earth to do, purchase governorships, to give themselves something to do; that something being comprised in walking down once a week to the committee, to set their watches by the clock, receive the bows of the doorkeepers, hear the gossip of the day; and having thus relieved their sense of duty, go home, calling themselves public characters, and imagining that they have found an apology for their existence.

"But the real management, the secret influence,—all, in short, that belongs to Authority, is in the hands of the treasurer. In the commencement of those institutions the treasurer is generally a gentleman, a person chosen for public character, and especially for his disengagement from all connection with trade. But, after a succession or two, the office quietly slides down into the hands of some man of traffic; sly, shy, and suspicious, who knows the value of his position to the uttermost farthing, plays the little autocrat, and is as jealous of his petty power as if he sat on the throne of all the Russias.

"I was elected to the preacher'ship, perhaps, not with the direct opposition, but evidently without the sanction, of the treasurer of the Foundling Hospital; for he would not make his appearance on the day of election. His presence or absence was not of the slightest consideration to me; yet, if I had then known of committees as much as I know now, I should have resigned the appointment within the next four-and-twenty hours.

"From that moment, whatever were the motive, every sermon which I preached, nay, every syllable of every sermon, became the sub-

ject of crude and empty cavil. It would be burlesque to call it criticism. No man living can be more submissive to intelligent criticism than myself; but opinions on literature, or theology, from the unfurnished Coterie before me, must be ridiculous.

"I make (concludes Dr. C.) no complaint of those people as malignant, or even as hostile. I complain of them simply, as being absurd and presumptuous; as talking nonsense, on subjects on which they ought not to have talked at all, and as not knowing how to treat a gentleman, when they happen to come in contact with one. But, I cannot stoop to any further notice of those people.

"Still, all that I heard, summed itself into the vague and childish objection, that my sermons were above the comprehension of the foundlings and servants of the hospital. I disdained such a tribunal, and in a feeling of contempt, I lost no time in flinging the appointment in the teeth of the committee; in the following letter.

"Sirs,—As I have heard that you speak of my sermons as abstruse, and as I regard such observations as uncalled for, and offensive, I instantly resign the appointment of afternoon preacher.

"Christianity is a manly religion, addressed to manly understandings, and which ought to be preached in manly language. Your children and servants should be left to the officers of your institution, and to Mrs. Trimmer's Catechisms.

"I hereby give notice, that I shall preach no more in your chapel."

"They answered by returning their 'unanimous thanks' for my services, and thus the matter ended."

Six out of the fourteen sermons preached at the Foundling are here published, and with the following hard slap by way of introduction:

"They are now before a tribunal, to whose competence no one can object. That they were not suited to the comprehension of the Foundling Hospital Committee, I can perfectly believe. To write to their capacities was a task, which must have too formidably augmented the difficulty of my position."

"Non nostrum tantas componere lites."

On the Fast-day and Thanksgiving-day, Dr. Croly preached two sermons, in which he took remarkable views of the providential theory of food, and the productiveness of the globe, from which (as there is nothing of polemics in them) we are inclined to copy a few passages as examples of the preacher. Treating of the ordinances in regard to food, he asks:

"But why was man so constituted, as to require food? Is not the obvious answer to be found, in that Divine benevolence by which enjoyment is spread so largely over all life. There can be no question of the resources of Omnipotence; man might have been formed with no more necessity for food than the flower. But, all know that food is capable of giving pleasure, and by this daily necessity a general pleasure was constantly combined with existence. And this purpose is still more distinctly shown as the scale descends. The animals immediately below man pass a large portion of their lives in the simple enjoyment of appetite. The insect tribes, and the still lower races, seem to pass nearly their whole existence in this pleasure. Man, at the summit of the intellectual scale, has perhaps the most restricted indulgence of appe-

tite; from his having more than compensating intellectual enjoyment. Thus the proportion of pleasure and capacity is sustained; but the principle of enjoyment exists through all."

After the fall, when condemned to labour for subsistence, it is remarked:

"In this Divine act there were also singular and expressive distinctions. The labour of the field was for the man, and for the man alone. His sentence was, 'in the sweat of thy brow shalt thou eat bread, until thou return to the ground.' The woman had her peculiar sentence; she was to suffer pain in childbirth—a pain almost wholly limited to the human race. Toil was no part of her sentence, and we must thus perceive, how distinctly opposed to the Divine intention is the employment of woman in the severe and exhausting drudgeries which have been so often laid on her by barbarism, and by the scarcely less barbarian habits of society calling itself civilized. The field, the mine, the manufacture, are not made for her. Man must have a home to rest in after his toil, and woman is made to give cheerfulness and comfort to that home.

"In the higher ranks of society, she is to be his intellectual companion, and the sharer in his honourable fame; in all, the source and the reward of his affections; in all, fond by nature, and faithful by principle, with but one interest and one heart, a being of tenderness and truth, she is to be a 'help meet for man,' down to the tomb.

"Another striking distinction is observable in the food of the lower animal world. The original produce of the earth was spontaneous, alike for all living existence. But man sinned, and to him it was spontaneous no more. The inferior animals, formed without a moral sense, were incapable of sharing in his sin, and they have not shared in his punishment. Their food remains spontaneous still. Man may force them to labour for him, but none labour for themselves. No animal has ever been discovered, that cultures the ground, or prepares its own sustenance. The lion and tiger may hunt down their prey, but the chase is a palpable enjoyment, and the capture is luxury. For bird and beast nature spreads an inexhaustible board. Man famishes, but no tribe of air, field, or forest, was ever lost for want of food. Man labours, and is the only labourer in the world."

These are striking observations. The appeal for the famished Irish is extremely pathetic; but as it blends into somewhat of politics and a religious question, we pass to the Thanksgiving sermon for other specimens of these remarkable discourses.

"The number of human beings on the earth is calculated at nearly one thousand millions: all those are fed from the produce of the ground; for even animal food is itself the produce of the ground.* It is true that, for this result, man in general must labour; but, how small an actual portion of this immense productiveness is due to man! His labour ploughs the ground, and drops the seed into the furrow. From that moment a higher agency supercedes him. The ground is in possession of influences which he can no more guide, summon, or restrain, than

* The food of a man has been calculated, at the lowest rate, at the value of five pounds annually. This alone would amount to five thousand millions sterling, without accounting for the food of all below man.

Enlarged 108.]

he can govern the ocean. The mighty alembic of the atmosphere is set at work; the rains are distilled, the gales sweep, the dews cling, the lightning darts its fertilizing fire into the soil, the frost purifies the rapidity of the fermenting vegetation,—perhaps a thousand other agents are in movement, of which the secrets are still hidden from man, but the vividness of whose force penetrates all things, and the extent of whose action is only to be measured by the globe; while man stands by, and has only to see the naked and drenched soil clothing itself with the tender vegetation of spring, or the living gold of the harvest; the whole loveliness and bounty of nature delighting his eye, soliciting his hand, and filling his heart with joy.

“But the wonder does not come to its limit, with the provision for man: the forest, the field, the mountain, the shore, are all peopled with eager existence. The world is all life. The quadruped millions range freely, and are led abundantly, in regions into which man never struck a spade. We speak of things of common knowledge. The buffalo ranges in herds of thousands in realms of the New World, to which man has yet scarcely given a name. In Africa, the casual migration of the antelope has displayed such myriads that they have been compared to the movement of a great army. The elephant, in Eastern Africa, is almost master of the land.

“Who feeds those millions? They can produce nothing for themselves. But, their table is spread upon the ground; and their provision is perpetual. If the tempest ravages it, or the sun scorches, or the frost smites, they are led by instinct, the invisible hand of Providence, to another soil; and still the land furnishes their inexhaustible food.

“But the support of man, and the quadruped races is but a portion of this wondrous productiveness. The millions of the reptile tribes, the millions of millions of the insect tribes, are all to be fed from the ground.

“Another race then comes into view, equally fed from land and ocean,—the fowls of the air. No grasp of numeration can calculate their multitudes. The migration of a single tribe—the wood pigeons of the North American forests—has covered the sky with a column of flight, a living cloud, ten miles long and a mile broad. In some instances, the migration is said to have lasted for days, continually darkening the sky. Such numbers defy all counting; yet they are all fed from the produce of the ground. Even the birds of prey, and the sea birds, are fed from that which was originally the produce of the ground.

“It is computed, that the land of the globe would be equal to the support of fifteen times the number of its present inhabitants, or might sustain a population of fifteen thousand millions. But the ocean, three times the extent of the land, probably contains even a much larger proportion of life, from its being penetrable, through all its depths; and from our knowledge, not merely of its surface, and the myriads which float upon its surface; but, from the strong probability, amounting almost to certainty, that the mountains and valleys of its bed are filled with vegetation, fed on by those monstrous animals whose skeletons we so constantly find embedded, and thus preserved in soils once evidently covered by the sea. There probably exists millions of those huge creatures, no more capable of ascending to the surface of the ocean than man to the surface of the atmosphere; yet enjoying their existence, grazing in their submarine forests and prairies, ranging through an extent of pasture to which the broadest regions of the land are tame and narrow; and, undisturbed by the hostility or the molestation of man, giving in their provision and their enjoyment proofs, to higher than mortal eyes, of the

spontaneous and boundless beneficence of their Creator.

“It is to this beneficence that I now, for a moment, solicit your attention. It is the custom, in the trifling theology of our declaimers, to pronounce that ‘God does all things for his own glory;’ but the theology of Scripture and of nature disdains these puerile paradoxes, and rejects the verbiage meant only to make ignorance stare. What could be thought, even of a man, whose only object was his own glory? What, but that his nature was narrow, poor, and utterly selfish?

“I shall not dare, even in remote allusions, to refer such a possibility to the High and Holy Creator of all. He has given but one definition of himself, and that definition is, ‘God is Love;’ and every part of his creation gives irresistible evidence of its truth. The whole character of the Divine action is, joy in the joy of his animated worlds. His whole visible impulse is Spontaneous Beneficence. What return can those unnumbered millions make to Him for their senses, their provision, or their being? If man can give prayer and praise,—and yet how slight must be such tributes to the Universal King!—what can be offered by all below man, creatures without the power of offering homage, of acknowledging his benefits, or even knowing his existence? What addition can they make to his honour: and yet, without Him, ‘not a sparrow falleth to the ground.’ I make no allusion to the skill, the knowledge of the powers and uses of matter, or the fine adaptations of form, which must have lived in the creative mind; I limit myself to the mere view of living sustenance; and from that single subject, what is the restless conclusion?

“I do not here speak of the astonished reverence of the philosopher, surrounded at every new glance with new wonders; I do not even speak of the rapt and solemn gratitude of the Christian, rejoicing that he has been suffered to see and feel those vivid evidences of the majesty and magnificence of his Heavenly Father. I take the most untaught observer of Nature, and ask him, what must be the Beneficence of that God who, sufficient to his own happiness, has yet extended happiness through a creation; has poured it out like the day from the fountains of the sun, and poured it alike on the insect and on the Archangel? I bow down to his Power, but it is too mighty for human comprehension, I worship his Science, but it is too profound for human faculties: I offer to his Infinite such homage as can be paid by a worm of the dust; and to his Eternity, such awe as can be felt by the creature of a day. But those are attributes, which are to be felt only in regions above the world, and by minds beyond mortality.

“It is in his Beneficence, that I can best comprehend his transcendent perfection. This attribute alone brings Him close to man, without lowering his throne. It allows man to make him his example, with no presumptuous imitation. It teaches man to worship God, in his works, without idolatry; and bow down to Him at once with the homage of the affections and the acknowledgment of the reason: ‘Be ye perfect, even as your Father in heaven is perfect;’—a precept which points to the height of virtue, and of heaven.

“I must now slightly advert to an opinion, which I believe to be prevalent; that physical nature has degenerated since the Fall.”

The beauties and sublimities of nature are painted with a poet’s feeling.

“What art of the pencil (exclaims the preacher) ever equalled the tinges of the grape cluster, its play of light, and the pearly or purple perfection of its form? What refinement of painting can surpass the orange, gleaming through the deep verdure of its leaves; the gradations of colour in the peach; or the rich

yet delicate beauty touched on the multitude of fruits with which we are all familiar? And yet this loveliness is not accidental. In the whole immense family of roots, which form so large a portion of human food, there is seldom any beauty of either colour or form: their growth beneath the surface, of course, excluding them from giving pleasure to the eye. But, where position allows of this pleasure, it seems a continual study. The progress of the fruit tree is almost a succession of beauty; from the springing foliage, the bud, the blossom, the formed fruit, to the ripened colouring. In all the loveliness of nature I know nothing lovelier than the orchard of our own country, under the varying lights of leaves and colour, of spring, summer, and autumn.”

With this we close a volume of singular character, the mingling of which may, we trust, be sufficiently gathered from our extracts.

PORT PHILIP,

Australia Felix, &c. By W. Westgarth. Pp. 440. Edinburgh, Oliver and Boyd. London, Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.

THE rapidly developing powers and capabilities of Australia, the great increase of its colonial population, the discovery of mines, and progress in important exports, necessarily lead to frequent and useful publication concerning it. There is of course much the same in these works, and the Reviewer (if he had not memory enough or time for careful comparison) might be betrayed into many repetitions and perpetual recurrence to topics already brought forward and discussed. Such are the accounts of the Aborigines, tales of the Bush, crimes and penalties, retrospects of history, remarks on emigration, the policy of different governments and governors, squatting, grazing, &c., &c. The present work chiefly addresses itself to the prosperous settlement of Port Philip; and is illustrated by an excellent map. We limit our brief notice to the part of the country which we have just alluded to:

“In 1836, the population, exclusive of aborigines, amounted to 224 persons; in 1841, to 11,738; and in 1846, to 32,879. The demand for pastoral labour has latterly occasioned the influx of a large number of persons from Van Diemen’s Land, chiefly of the convict class, who have either partially or wholly recovered their freedom by servitude. The population may now therefore be estimated at upwards of 35,000 colonists, independently of the aboriginal natives.”

There are four principal towns, the chief being Melbourne, with some 12,000 inhabitants:

“For the last four years the supply of agricultural and garden produce in Australia Felix has been extremely abundant, and the prices lower than in most other countries. In 1844 and the following year, the four-pound loaf was selling at 4d.; and as the price of beef and mutton during the same period ranged from 1d. to 1½d. per pound, the cost of living was reduced to a very trifling expense. The loaf has since advanced to 6d. or 7d., and beef and mutton are now about 2d. per pound. These still moderate rates are not likely to be much if at all increased during any season or for any permanent time. The show of fruit is still comparatively limited, as the gardens are as yet but little advanced: but each succeeding year greatly enhances the quantity, and prospectively the district will be abundantly supplied. The grape, the peach, the apricot, the nectarine, the quince, the almond, all the varieties of the plum, are produced in the greatest profusion, along with the cherry, the apple, the pear, and other descriptions common to the mother country.”

“The rent of farms and gardens, as may be

“The small or Alpine strawberry bears abundantly, but the same success has not attended the larger varieties. The gooseberry bears well only in some localities.

supposed, is in general low. Where fluctuations of commerce and the varieties of soil and situation affect in every degree the value of all landed property, it is difficult to estimate any scale of rents. A cleared field of 100 acres, with a small cottage and garden a few miles from town, may be had for about £40 a-year. The profits of agriculture are in general by no means tempting; but the climate is pleasant, the mode of life agreeable, and the labours of husbandry have always possessed attractions for a considerable proportion of the community. The difficulty now experienced in procuring new pastoral stations will have the effect of directing a larger share of attention to the subject of agriculture.

"But the newly arrived colonist must not expect to find in Australia Felix the same air of finish and neatness that characterize a British farm. The well-trimmed hedge and the substantial wall are rarely met with, and are usually represented by post-and-rail fences, and by walls of loose stones, both descriptions of enclosure being occasionally in bad repair. Instead of a well tilled and well drained field, the eye often rests upon a negligently scratched surface, a self-sown harvest, and an alternation of stumps and stones scattered in dismal variety over the surface of the property. In the longer settled districts to the north, many of the farms and other private grounds have attained a high degree of neatness and improvement; and the energy and taste of some of the Port Phillip colonists have already succeeded in adorning various agricultural localities, and extirpating from their fields the remnants of the original wilderness. But indeed the fault of an opposite result is not entirely chargeable to the colonists: the almost uninterrupted high price and scarcity of labour are a serious obstacle in the way of agricultural as well as all other progress and improvement in the colony.

"There are two circumstances which have affected in an important degree the social condition of the Australasian colonies, namely, the penal character of the two principal settlements of New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land, and the small proportion of females among the population. The latter evil was a consequence of the former, arising from the much larger proportion of male than of female prisoners. The remote situation of the colony from Britain has also been a powerful check upon spontaneous female emigration. The Port Phillip settlement, deriving its origin from these penal colonies, is intimately connected with their social history. The larger portion of its present population was subsequently drawn in a more wholesome stream direct from the mother country; but her proximity and intercourse with her two elder sisters still associates the respective populations by the operations of commerce and the demands of the labour market. The cessation of transportation to New South Wales now permits a beneficial reaction in the state of her society; and the lately expressed doubts of the home government in regard to the continuance of this mode of punishment, afford to Australia generally the promise of a better future."

We must refer to the work itself for useful details, and sensible remarks thereon, which would extend our notice far beyond the limits we could afford, and yet not furnish the information required by all who are interested in the subject.

ANCIENT SICILY.

Frammenti di Testi Arabi per servire alla Storia della Sicilia Musulmana. Tradotti e illustrati da Michele Amari. Parigi.

THE work of Amari which rendered his name familiar to Europe has already received the approbation of the highest authorities; and his history of the events which led to the memorable

Sicilian Vespers, and to the placing of Peter of Aragon on the throne of Sicily, has obtained for him a well-deserved reputation; but the pursuits in which he is now engaged have not yet been sufficiently made known to have attracted the attention of the literary world, and induced it to urge him on in the prosecution of his labours, amid the many difficulties which they must naturally present. He has opened a new field for inquiry, and has, with unwearied perseverance, toiled on a land which has not been furrowed by the plough, but which must yield an abundant harvest when the irksome toil is past. Sicily has scarcely been touched by the classic and the antiquary. As the cradle of pastoral poetry, as the land which gave birth to Empedocles, to Diodorus, to Archimedes, and to Theocritus, or as a Colony possessed in turns by every maritime nation that sought for ascendancy in the earlier stages of civilization, it remained for Amari to illustrate a period which seemed almost to have been forgotten by the modern writers, but which, nevertheless, abounds in deep interest, and carries with it objects of value in the researches into the history of the human race. He has undertaken the task of making us acquainted with the effects produced upon that beautiful Island by the conquest of the Mussulmans, and by the introduction of the manners, the religion, the architecture, and the literature of the Arabians. For this purpose he has, with the greatest assiduity and zeal, studied oriental languages, and become intimately acquainted with some of the most important Arabic manuscripts which are to be found in the great libraries of Europe. He has from time to time furnished the *Asiatic Journal* of France with translations from the fragments of Arabian authors which exist in the Royal Library of France, and seem to throw light upon the Saracenic period of Sicilian occupation. The two that are collected in the work now before us are the narrations of the visits paid to the Island of Sicily by Ebn Haucal, and by Ebn Grobair. The first of these is the oldest Arabian traveller of whom any works are at this period extant. He lived in the fourth century of the Hegira, or the tenth of the Christian era, a time during which the Arabians had written much on natural history, and had translated many of the Greek authors. He was a cotemporary of the celebrated geographer and historian, Misaudi. He left Baghdad, then the seat of the Caliphs, whilst still a youth, in the year 943; he traversed the parts of Africa and of Spain which were under Mahometan rule, and likewise Sicily. Wherever he went he carefully made notes of all that he saw; and, in the year 977, he published all he had collected together under the form of Geography. These observations, however, were written in a style of too great pretension, and called down upon him the severe criticisms of Abulfeda and of other writers, who, at a somewhat later period, had acquired more exact information, and who had opportunities of reading the translation that had been made in their own language of the Geography of Ptolemy and Martin of Tyre, and of examining maps delineated by their own countrymen, and of availing themselves also of their astronomical observations. There, however, is much excuse to be offered for the errors made by Ebn Haucal in any of the branches of science, or in his views of the customs of the people amongst whom he was incidentally thrown. It must be borne in mind, that it was in the pursuit of commerce that he was engaged, and that he journalized what he actually saw, and not with the intention of writing an accurate history, but with a view of communicating his own observations to his friends. He was necessarily imbued with all the prejudices of his countrymen; and, coming from the royal city of Baghdad, he looked down with a feeling of superi-

ority upon everything that did not carry with it the associations to which he looked with reverence and admiration. The Arabic scholar is familiar with the versions of the *Cosmographia*, which have been ascribed to Ebn Haucal, through the labours of Vilembroech, who published in Latin, at Leyden, the chapter relating to Persia, of the Baroni di Slane; who translated that upon Southern Africa into French; and of Sir William Ouseley, who translated the *Oriental Geography* from the Persian. But that which has been given us by Amari has yet been inedited, and the manuscripts that remain are few in number. He has transcribed the chapter upon Sicily from one which is in the *Bibliothèque Royale*, a very inferior copy of which is in the library at Leyden. Since its publication in the *Asiatic Journal*, he has had an opportunity of collating it with a very ancient manuscript in one of the libraries at Oxford, in which he found many variations, of which he has availed himself in the present edition for annotation.

Abn'l Hossein Mohammed, Ebn-Ahmed, Ebn-Grobair, of the tribe of Chenani, was born at Valencia, in the year of the Christian era 1145, and descended from a respectable family of Xativa; he studied the Koran with great assiduity, as well as the various commentaries upon it, which forms the basis of Mahometan morality and jurisprudence. He was appointed secretary to Sid Abn-Said, governor of Granada, and exhibited the talents that marked him not only as an ornament of Arabic literature, but as a useful observer of the manners and morals of those with whom his duties called upon him to become acquainted. He also displayed, as was generally the case amongst those who aspired to celebrity, his poetic genius. The most important of Ebn-Grobair's works, however, is his *Voyage in the East*; this has been published by Doctor Reinhart Dozy, of Leyden, who has distinguished himself by giving several editions of Arabian manuscripts. From this work Amari has made the translation of the chapter which throws some light on the state of Sicily during its Saracenic government; it gives us the diary of his journey from the 9th of December, 1184, to February, 1185. Messina, Palermo, Syracuse, are described, and the fertility, the abundance of the island are dwelt upon; the court of the king is painted, his splendid palaces, his delicious gardens, his Mahometan pages, his negro slaves; many singular facts are recounted—such as the conversion of several Christian ladies to the Mussulman faith, personal anecdotes of the king, and many circumstances of which Amari will be enabled to avail himself in his proposed work. To these two extracts from Arabian authors, he has subjoined the translation of a diploma, of April, 1133, of special privilege, granted by William the Second of Sicily, to his favourite monastery of Monreal, exhibiting the decline of Mahometan religious zeal, and the diminution of reverence for the forms of that faith they had sought with fire and sword to promulgate over the habitable globe. This diploma was discovered originally by M. Noel des Vergers, whose name holds a distinguished rank amongst Arabic scholars, and has been published in the *Asiatic Journal*. The notes which are appended to the translation are a full evidence of the learning and the philological knowledge which Amari has brought to bear upon the subject of his research, and lead us to anticipate from the work he intends to publish accurate information and enlightened disquisitions. We learn that the free access which the liberality of the keepers of the Royal Library in Paris, has given to M. Amari, is likely to be amply repaid by his diligent and unwearied labours. Several MSS. have been examined by him which have been little attended to, and amongst the sciences which are calculated to derive benefit, that of medicine will, most probably, be the foremost. Some Arabic writers whose names are

quite unknown are to be found in the vast collection, and likewise a translation into Latin of the works of Rhazes, whose treatise on the small-pox is almost the only portion of his labours known to us, through the industry of the celebrated Mead. We shall hail with pleasure the production of the *Dominazione Musulmana in Sicilia*, which our author hopes to be enabled to publish within the present year; and still more shall we be gratified if he can carry out his idea of furnishing us with a *Bibliotheca Arabo-Sicula*. It is singular that although the island of Sicily was for nearly four hundred years under Saracenic rule, the collections of the *Barone Gabriele Judica*, of the Museum founded during the last century by the *Principe Ignazio Biscari*, of the Monastero de Benneditone, so rich in Etruscan, Grecian, and Roman specimens of art, should furnish so little for inquiry. Much yet, remains, however, to be done, and we trust that the mine which has been opened by Amari will yet be deeply searched by other investigators, who will doubtless find treasure enough to reward them for the undertaking.

THE LATE JOHN STERLING.

Essays and Tales. By John Sterling. Collected and edited, with a Memoir of his Life, by Julius C. Hare, M.A. 2 vols. J. W. Parker.

The author was the son of Mr. Sterling, whose Letters, under the signature of "Vetus," made a considerable sensation when published in the *Times* newspaper, a good many years ago (1812). The paternal example led his youthful fancy into political and periodical writing, and gave the bias to his life. He studied some time at Trinity College, Cambridge, but the diversified and erratic course of his pursuits rather induced variety than depth in his lucubrations. He was a man of talent rather than a scholar; and an early admiration of Greek literature seems soon to have dissolved itself into a still higher feeling for German philosophy and mysticism. He entered the church, but ill health, the result of pulmonary disease from the cradle, forced him to abandon the duties of that profession. His literary occupation could not gratify a mind ambitious of distinction. He laments the fragmentary kind of thinking, and says, "I feel so strongly the necessity of educating myself, that I should be glad if it were possible not to let a line of mine be printed for some years to come. But I fear this cannot be. I must go on sacrificing the future to the present, grinding my seed-corn, and cutting down my saplings."

And so it is with the most successful of writers whose pens are incessantly called upon for contributions to the periodical press. Small is their fame for great expenditure of intellect; and little their mintage for coining the ready money of the age in which they live. Their seed-corn, indeed, is for present food not a future harvest; and their saplings, a forest of them however natural, springing, useful, and beautiful, are nothing to a single tree planted and reared up by a moderately skilful hand. We have in our time known many such individuals; and lamented genius thus obscurely wasted—daily, weekly, monthly, and even quarterly essaying, is like throwing pebbles into the sea. There is a splash, and the stones sink to the bottom.

Mark, for example, the contrast with a clever lawyer, who makes a telling speech in court, or conducts a case with sufficient talent to attract favourable notices. His path is at once opened to wealth, promotion, and the highest dignities. But let an author write an Essay far superior to that speech, or carry through an argument of the highest importance with thrice the skill and force of the conduct of that case; and he is just where he was, one of the Pariahs of literature, to continue to toil in the same undistinguished and unprofitable course.

In 1833 Mr. Sterling published a novel, called *Arthur Coningsby*, which on its appearance the *Literary Gazette* (Review, Jan. 19th, p. 41) considered to be the production of a very young man, extravagant, visionary, and of course often absurd; yet with here and there indications of thought and feeling of which something might be made by severe discipline: "Incoherent and diffuse (page 42), *Arthur Coningsby* seems as little likely to be understood as to be read; and yet we cannot but think that the writer could do better."

Such were our opinions when the author (aged 27) was not so young as we imagined him to be; and with slight modifications, we may say, that we entertain the same judgment respecting nearly all this voluminous collection of his productions. His poetry never rose above the middle standard, but was ever the solace of his sickly career. Of Charles Lamb, he says, "He was a man of true genius, though on a small scale, as a spangle may be gold as pure as a doubloon. I cannot describe the feeling of the ludicrous which came over me just now, on finding a passage where he talks of Adam grudging a penny for nonpareils at a stall in Mesopotamia when remembering the unpurchased plenty of his former orchard."

Of literature generally he repeats, in other words, the sentiment of Scott, that it was good enough for a staff, but a bad crutch: for he observes, "As to reckoning on literature as a means of subsistence, it is a melancholy kind of speculation, and in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, produces bitter disappointment. Nothing at all events could justify the scheme, except success already obtained. If you can write what shall be worth money, and have the sovereigns in your pocket, you may fairly hope to do the same thing again. But at the best, the temptation to write for the market, and so degrade one's own feelings and character, is, when one depends on the public for bread, a temptation so strong, that only the firmest and noblest minds can long resist it. I shall be very glad to hear what you may think of writing, and, if you go on with it, to look at it before you send it forth on any venture."

In 1843 he printed *Stafford*, a tragedy, and in 1844 passed quietly away.

His whole life was of a literary character, and wherever he travelled or resided it seemed to be to him a constant source of pleasure and a charm. He wrote in the *Quarterly*, the *Westminster*, *Blackwood*, and other magazines, and these volumes contain a very miscellaneous collection of his performances. Whether a selection might not have been more advisable we cannot tell; but fourteen or fifteen hundred pages of this kind are rather repulsive to general readers in our busy day. Still, as a work to lay by, and take up occasionally, we may truly say that there is much variety and talent to interest us; and that the high-flown of the syncretic school is mixed up with much that is sensible, shrewd, and instructive.

NATURAL HISTORY.

SEVERAL delightful and useful publications on Natural History are now on our table; and we proceed to mention three which form almost a sufficient library in their way, and are charming companions for young people who take a pleasure in studying nature.

1st. *Popular Field Botany*, by Agnes Catlow, author of "Popular Conchology," (Reeve, Benham, and Reeve), contains a familiar and technical description of the plants most common to the British Isles, and with it in your hand you might traverse every locality, making yourself acquainted with the names, appearances, and qualities of every herb and tree that grows. Now, when Spring is approaching, how pleasant it would be to wander in

the fields with this instructive guide, and pick up every botanical variety which clothes and adorns them, learning how to distinguish them, and pointing out their peculiar features and uses. Let us advise our youthful readers to have it in store, against the time when snow-drops, crocuses, violets, primroses, anemones, &c., begin to bloom, and every hedgerow or meadow will also furnish them with sweet and pretty objects for intellectual contemplation. The coloured prints are very accurate, and great helps to the student.

2nd. *Chamber Birds, &c.* By J. M. Bechstein, M.D. Translated from the last German Edition, by W. E. Shuckard, M.E.S. Orr and Co. DR. BECHSTEIN'S work is well-known to be a complete *vade mecum* and authority in regard to the treatment of all birds domesticated by man. This edition leaves nothing to be communicated, and, led by it, we can at once adopt the right way of feeding, teaching, them—singing, caring for them when attacked by disease, and, in short, managing them in the best possible manner. Numerous anecdotes add to the interest of the volume, which, like the preceding, is nicely illustrated by coloured engravings. Notes compiled from English naturalists enhance the value of the whole.

3rd. *Insect Changes*, pp. 32, (Grant and Griffith), is a most attractive first lesson in Entomology, embellished in a style to fascinate young eyes; whilst the letter-press is brief, plain, and satisfactory for young minds.

LORD CAMPBELL'S CHANCELLORS

LORD ELDON.

The last and the longest memoir fills the 7th volume; and it is a weighty one of 736 pages. In treating of preceding lives we have had occasion to notice that if the author had any partialities (undetected by his own mind), they were not in favour of Lord Eldon. His constructions upon his conduct in many a difficult and arduous position seem to us to be severe; though we are not prepared to deny their justice, at least, in several instances, where momentous crises of self-interest of the most ambitious order, could not fail to affect the reasoning powers and consequent action of any individual involved in such trying circumstances. The gist, however, of all Lord Campbell's statements and observations is, that his veteran predecessor began early in life to think nothing of white lies to serve a purpose (see p. 50); that he strained the laws when Attorney-General; that he betrayed Lord Sidmouth; that he was a consummate caterer, and pretender to sensibility; that he acted the hypocrite with Queen Caroline; that he was throughout a thorough political intriguer (p. 270); and that at the conclusion of his life he was more addicted to falsehood (not only white lies) than at its beginning (p. 436, &c.).

Into the opposite scale Lord Campbell throws good humour, pleasantry, great abilities as a lawyer and judge, and consistency in politics.

Upon these opinions we shall offer no comment. They are deduced from the data (with very little addition) on which Mr. Twiss arrived at opposite conclusions, and the public will determine between them, whether that gentleman's bright tints, or Lord Campbell's dark colours, afford the truest light and shade of the mixed character; or whether some quiet and well laid in touches of the neutral between them might not be more correct than either. Of Lord Campbell's demonstrations the following are examples:

A.D. 1825. "The only other occasion which called upon him to come forward, during this

"He was so celebrated for this quality, good humour, facetiousness, and anecdote, that we have heard ladies of exalted rank boast of their happiness in securing a seat next him at dinner.—Ed. L. G."

session of Parliament, was to correct certain exaggerated statements of his official gains—when he represented himself as a sufferer, in a pecuniary point of view, by holding the Great Seal. He said, 'that in no one year, since he had been made Lord Chancellor, had he received the same amount of profit which he enjoyed while at the bar: had he remained at the bar, and kept the situation he held there, he solemnly declared he should not be one shilling a poorer man than he was at that moment, notwithstanding his office.' By what mental reservation he reconciled this statement to his conscience, I am wholly at a loss to conjecture; for his fee-book proves that the largest sum he ever received in any one year, while Attorney-General, was £12,140 15s.—the average receipt being little more than £10,000; whereas, the returns he made to the House of Commons of his official income as Chancellor show that, in 1810, it reached £22,730; and that, subject to all deductions, it exceeded on an average £17,000 a year—to say nothing of the lucrative offices and reversions he had been able to bestow upon his family. He now alleged that the misrepresentation, respecting the emoluments of his office, was the reason for reluctantly retaining it. 'Perhaps it was thought,' he said, 'that this mode of calumnious misrepresentation was the way to get me out of office; they are mistaken who think so; I will not yield to such aspersions, nor shrink from asserting what I owe to myself.'

A.D. 1818. "The particulars of the meeting between the Regent and the Chancellor, on this occasion, have not yet been given to the world, but the result had by no means corresponded with the warm wishes of His Royal Highness; for no ministerial measure was instituted respecting the Princess, and the famous 'Milan commission,' which now took its origin, was left entirely to the management and control of Sir John Leech.

"A paragraph, of which Lord Eldon believed that 'his Honour' was the author, appeared in the newspapers, stating that the 'Lord Chancellor, on account of his age and infirmities, had resolved immediately to resign the Great Seal, that he might enjoy that dignified repose to which, from his long and meritorious services to the Crown and to the public, he was so justly entitled.' The rumour being supposed to receive strong corroboration, particularly from persons connected with Carlton House, was in everybody's mouth, and was generally credited—people varying chiefly as to the cause of the unexpected event—some saying that Lord Eldon was sincerely tired of office—more, that he had quarrelled with his colleagues about the Catholic question—and a few of the well-informed whispering that there had been some unpleasant discussions about the Princess of Wales. He himself was thrown into an agony of mortification, and he much resembled, for a time, the old man who had called upon Death to relieve him from his load, when the grisly monarch actually appeared before him.

"It certainly is very amusing, after observing his rage against the newspaper paragraph, and his indignant charge against those persons who, having a strong interest, tried to accomplish his resignation by talking about it, to watch the workings of his mind. He was afraid that, in complaining of this wicked fabrication, he had betrayed some fondness for the office, which he did not like to acknowledge to himself, much less to his brother, and therefore he gravely talks of his various reasons for resigning. But then, with wonderful facility, he overrules them all on the simple request of the Regent, 'not to desert him,' which he must have known to be insincere; for although Lord Liverpool and his colleagues would have deeply regretted the loss of Lord Eldon, and probably would have refused to admit into

the Cabinet the mover of the mischief, his Royal Highness at this time would unquestionably have been delighted to hand over the Great Seal to him who was unscrupulously labouring to gratify the wish nearest his heart. The concluding touch, about the manner in which he had been abandoned in the House of Commons, by his 'fellow servants,' to his enemies, is particularly racy. Yet, though he continued to be more factiously assailed and more feebly defended in the House of Commons, he was prevailed upon to hold the Great Seal above nine years longer, and then he thought that he was ill-used in being deprived of it.*

On Mr. Hunt's trial, connected with the Peterloo affair, we find a comment of another description:

A.D. 1819. "I will not now," says Lord Eldon, 'give any opinion on the proceedings at Manchester, as all the facts are to be laid before a jury. This only I owe it to myself to say,—that it is my fixed, my unqualified opinion, that the meeting at Manchester on the 16th of August, was, in every sense of the word, an illegal meeting.'

"Such a declaration of the law, while inquiry was denied, I think was very exceptionable. One bad consequence which it produced was, that when Mr. Hunt's trial came on, Mr. Justice Bailey, a very learned and honest, but not very strong-minded judge—to show his independence, expressed considerable doubts respecting the character of the meeting, and actually advised Sir James Scarlett, who was leading counsel for the Crown, after the trial had lasted some days, to give up the prosecution. Indeed, it was owing to the firmness and extraordinary ability of that gentleman, who considered himself bound to exert himself the more from being politically opposed to the Government, that justice was not defeated by an acquittal.† What would have been the consequence if the Lord Chancellor's advice had been taken, and the indictment had charged Mr. Hunt with 'traitorously imagining the death of our Lord the King, and levying war against him in his realm?'"

This we know to have been true. The Cabinet was shaken to its base by Justice Bailey's charge, and much indignation expressed to him for having endangered the public peace and safety of the country by his proceedings on this occasion.

Taking the few matters to which we mean to advert, rather in the order of date than of legal or political connection, we shall here turn to the mention of George III.:

"At the end of the reign of George III. I may appropriately introduce Lord Eldon's opinion of him, and some anecdotes respecting him, as related to me by a gentleman who lived with Lord Eldon on the most familiar terms for many years:—"He often declared upon his honour, that he thought his old master had more wisdom than all his Ministers conjointly,—an opinion which I have heard him support by declaring that he could not remember having taken to him any state paper of importance which he did not alter, nor one which he did not alter for the better. But it ought to be added, that this opinion of the superior wisdom of George III. was qualified by the addition, "not that I mean to assert that he would have been more wise if his opportunities of gaining knowledge had not been greater than

"I am much struck with the extreme good nature of my excellent friend, Mr. Twiss, who, introducing the above letter, says, 'Lord Eldon himself, however, was beginning to be weary of the toils and anxieties of office.' But if we credit the noble and learned lord's own professions, he had been equally disgusted with the *trouble* ever since it had been forced upon him; and this is the time when he seems in reality to have been most eager to retain it,—out of resentment to the man who was plotting against him.—See *Twiss*, ch. xl."

"When he returned to London, he was warmly thanked for his exertions by Lord Liverpool, who acknowledged to him that if Mr. Hunt had been acquitted, there must have been a change of Administration."

that of any of his servants. But what is the experience of the oldest of them in comparison of his? And though his manner of stating the result of that experience is calculated to mislead casual observers, yet those who will divest his matter of his manner must come to the conviction that it has been gathered by long and laborious application of powers of no ordinary strength."

"After the King's mind had become a wreck, and when its native strength could be traced only by the 'method of madness,' Lord E. would sometimes describe it, after he had been at the Queen's Council. The following is an instance of this, of which I retain a perfectly clear recollection:—It was argued, he related, that if any strong feature of the King's malady appeared during the presence of the council, Sir H. Halford should, on receiving a signal from me, endeavour to recall him from his aberrations; and, accordingly, when his Majesty appeared to be addressing himself to two of the persons whom he most favoured in his early life, long dead, Sir H. observed, 'Your Majesty has, I believe, forgotten that — and — both died many years ago.' 'True,' was the reply, 'died to you, and the world in general; but not to me. You, Sir H., are forgetting that I have the power of holding intercourse with those whom you call dead. Yes, Sir H.,' continued he, assuming a lighter manner, 'it is in vain, as far as I am concerned, that you kill your patients. Yes, Dr. Bailey;—but Bailey—Bailey,' pursued he with assumed gravity, 'I don't know. He is an anatomist, he dissects his patients; and then it would not be a resuscitation only, but a re-creation; and that I think, is beyond my power.'

"After his Majesty had, in 1807, changed the Ministry which was so unpalatable to him, I, re-appearing as Chancellor in my former official attire, the King asked, in a whisper, 'My Lord, is not that the old wig?' and receiving the reply, 'It is, Sir, the old wig,'—the rejoinder was, 'I say, Lord C., why did you keep an old Wig?'"

Lord Campbell's own opinion is thus delivered:

"Six days afterwards (i.e. after the death of the Duke of Kent, 22nd January, 1820,) George III., whose mind was too much weakened to allow him to be conscious of his bereavement, was released from suffering. This event produced a great sensation, although it was not likely to be attended with any political change, and ten years before, his reign had in reality terminated. But his name had still been preserved in all public acts; his image appeared on the coin; the nation still considered itself under his auspices; much sympathy had been excited by the thought that a mighty monarch, reduced to a state of mental imbecility and blindness, was cut off even from the intercourse of his own family, to whom he had been so tenderly attached; and his faults being forgotten, people were disposed to think only of his singleness and sincerity of purpose, his determined resolution, and his truly English heart. He certainly was a Prince possessed of very valuable qualities, and it is only fair to state, that everything discovered concerning him since his death has tended to raise our opinion both of his abilities and of his generosity."

"I myself have had an opportunity of reading his private correspondence with Lord North, which conveys a wonderful idea of his activity, familiarity with business, and knowledge of character. His steady attachment to that Minister is highly creditable to his heart. With a better education, he might have been one of the greatest sovereigns who ever filled the throne of England."

"From a note of his, recorded by Lord Eldon, he might even have displayed a talent for delicate sarcasm.—On one occasion George III., when he came out of the House of Lords, after opening the session of Parliament, said to me, 'Lord Chancellor, did I deliver the speech well?' 'Very well indeed, sir,' was my answer. 'I am glad of that,' replied the King, 'for there was nothing in it.'"

"I remember being told, when I was a boy, although I

The affairs of Queen Caroline, the notorious Book, her trial and political struggles, necessarily occupy much space; but we shall only quote a passage concerning them which appears more like a Thurlow than an Eldonism.

"The Committee, dividing on the question, 'That the divorce clause stand part of the bill,' the CONTENTS were 129, the NOT CONTENTS 62.—Lord Eldon, Lord Liverpool, and all the Ministers voting in the minority.

"When the division was over, Lord Holland seated himself beside Lord Eldon on the woolsack, and said to him,—'Lord Chancellor, your bishops have made but an indifferent figure to-night,—one half of them saying that a man will be damned if under certain circumstances he lives with his wife, and the other half that he will be damned if under the same circumstances he puts her away.'—*Lord Chancellor.* 'I am only certain of one thing, which is—that they will all be damned.'"

On this unfortunate business, and Eldon's share in it, Lord C. remarks:

"He was mistaken in supposing that the memory of this scandalous proceeding would so soon pass away, for it produced a deep disgust in the public mind, which was not effaced during the current reign,—and not until examples of purity and of all the domestic virtues had afterwards been displayed on the throne, was it that the people of this country were again affectionately attached to the monarchical government under which they and their forefathers had so long flourished. Lord Eldon himself, though little given to change his opinion, or to confess that he had been wrong, seems in his latter days to have regretted the proceedings upon the Bill of Pains and Penalties against Queen Caroline—which he goes so far as to denominate—'proceedings, perhaps, more just than prudent.' Happily, I am not called upon to offer any opinion upon the guilt or innocence of the party accused, or to say how far her disregard of the opinion of others, and her habitual refusal to submit to the conventional restraints imposed upon her rank and sex, may, in her case, repel the inference usually drawn from certain transgressions of the rules of delicacy, and so redeem her from the highest imputation of misconduct. Had it not been for the ill-usage she experienced in the early part of her married life, there probably would have been little hesitation in coming to an unfavourable conclusion upon the evidence produced against her; and in that case, whatever the fact might be, she would have had no just reason to complain, for a woman must be prepared to see the inferences drawn against her, which naturally arise from the situations in which she chooses to place herself; and if she has raised a general belief of guilt, it is really not very important to others, that she retains a consciousness in her own breast of not having actually consummated her infidelity.

"This was the most wretched part of Lord Eldon's life. His sufferings must have been greatly aggravated by the consideration that the individual whom he was now called upon to vilify and to degrade, was the same Caroline of Brunswick who received him so hospitably at Blackheath—and he must have felt some envy when he saw Mr. Canning sacrificing office, and daring the King's displeasure, rather than assist in the proceedings against her."

Mr. Canning he certainly "never could abide," and his hostility to that great, pure, and patriotic statesman never slept. On his being charged, in 1827, with the formation of a new ministry, Lord C. relates:

"Lord Eldon had another audience of the

never saw the anecdote in print, that having knighted a gentleman of the name of Day, at a levee held on the 29th of September, he said, 'Now I know that I am a King, for I have turned DAY into KNIGHT, and made LADY-DAY at Michaelmas.'

King on the morning of the 10th, when his Majesty intimated to him that, although Mr. Peel was inflexible, and his valuable services for the present must be lost, yet, as there seemed no way in which the Government could be reconstructed on the principle he suggested, his Majesty had resolved to commission Mr. Canning to lay before him the plan of a new Administration, of which himself was to be the head. It is a curious fact, that Lord Eldon not only did not then disclose any intention of resigning, but actually gave the King reason to believe that he would continue in office, and support the new Prime Minister. Still more curious is it, that the same day he held the same language to Mr. Canning himself. He is, therefore, entirely free from the charge—afterwards most pertinaciously brought against him—of having combined with other Anti-Catholic members of the Cabinet, to deprive the King of the choice of his Ministers by a threat that, if Mr. Canning were put at the head of the Treasury, they would all resign,—although he seems by no means entitled to the credit he took to himself, of having resolved from the beginning, that he never would hold the Great Seal under a Pro-Catholic Prime Minister.

"What changed the purpose which he certainly appears to have entertained on the 10th of April, we can only conjecture; for the next fact which we positively know is, that early on the 12th, without any previous communication of his intention, he sent his resignation to Mr. Canning,—who received it when he was actually in the King's closet about to kiss hands as First Lord of the Treasury. The probability is, that Lord Eldon, in the intermediate time, had formed his resolution to resign—finding that not only Sir Robert Peel, but all the Anti-Catholic members of the Cabinet, had resigned,—so that he could not remain with any decency,—and believing that, upon such a general defection, Mr. Canning could not stand,—so that they must all be speedily restored."

We may here repeat a historical fact connected with this negotiation which we have stated before, and on the surest authority. Mr. Canning was of opinion that, of all his old Tory colleagues who deserted him at this time, Mr. Peel was the only one who had a sound political ground for his secession, namely, their difference on the Roman question, and the impropriety of his administering the business of Ireland under a Premier who upheld, whilst he opposed, the Romish claims. We believe we may safely and truly add, that Lord Eldon canvassed the Duke of Wellington and others to withdraw their support from Mr. Canning; and, in Lord Melville's case, he actually persuaded that nobleman to join the malcontents after he had agreed to accept office under Mr. Canning. Neither the Duke of Wellington nor Lord Melville will contradict this great fact, the whole being accomplished within three hours of Lord Eldon's leaving the Minister's official chamber in Downing-street to drive to Apsley House, and thence dispatch the startling result which drove him into connexion with the moderate Whigs. However, the Chancellor passed away into private life, and Lord C. does not spare him in that capacity:—

"We are again to view Lord Eldon in the trying situation of an Ex-Chancellor, in which my heroes have differed much more than in office,—where they were almost all alike engrossed by the common objects of retaining power, and doing as much good to their country as was consistent with their own ease and aggrandisement. It would have been very delightful to me if I could have recorded that this, the last of my series, now taking Lord Somers for his model, had devoted himself to literature and science,—and had eclipsed his great judicial reputation by reforming the laws and improving the institutions of his country. It really might have been expected, that the pupil of Moses and the bro-

ther of Sir William Scott, would eagerly return to a perusal of the classics, when duty no longer required him to pore over the interminable tomes of Equity Reports; and that although hitherto—his eyes being dazzled by the bright beam of royal favour—he had been blind to the faults of the system over which he had presided, he would at last distinctly see them in all their deformity, and would struggle to remove them. But, alas! he had for ever lost all taste for any reading more recondite than the newspapers—complaining even that 'now-a-days they are too bulky, and presume to discuss subjects which should be left to pamphlets and reviews.' Instead of leaving us a reformation of Chancery procedure, to be known by posterity under the title of 'Lord Eldon's Equity Jeofails Act,' he gave himself no further trouble in carrying out the Report of the Chancery Commission; and though he had been driven by pressure from without to give it some countenance, he probably thought that its suggestions were dangerous innovations, which, in their remote consequences, might lead to the subversion of the monarchy."

"When the 'Advertisements' in the *Times* had been exhausted, I am afraid that he had no resource except counting over the money in his chest—and receiving gossiping visits from a few old professional friends, who flattered him with reminiscences of his former greatness, and censures of the proceedings of his successor. The listless day appeared dreadfully long to him, and he must often have been impatient for the hour of dinner, when he could soothe his inaction with a bottle of 'Newcastle Port.'

"But the full misery of idleness, to a mere lawyer in retirement, was not experienced by him till after the formation of the Duke of Wellington's Government, in the beginning of the following year—when he considered himself abandoned by all his political associates, and he certainly knew that he never was again to be in office."

This, indeed, was the unkindest cut of all; but we must think it even-handed justice for the treatment of Mr. Canning. Lord C. proceeds to draw not very flattering pictures of a retired Chancellor:

"Notwithstanding the conviction of Lord Eldon that the complacent remembrance of the past would gild his future years, I cannot help suspecting that when he drove home from Carlton House without the Purse to bear him company, he suffered under what he considered a sad bereavement; and that when he awoke next morning, and looked to the chest in which the bauble had been so long carefully guarded by him, he felt a bitter pang at the recollection that it was gone, and that he should see its face no more. What a sinking of the heart must have come over him when the hour arrived for his train-bearer and his mace-bearer to announce to him that the carriage was ready to take him to Westminster Hall, and instead of the bustle of the daily procession, he was left undisturbed in his breakfast parlour, to pore over a newspaper, giving an account of the installation of the new Ministers! Now he would have been pleased to endure the eternal 'din of the tongues of counsel,' though more grating than the drone of a Scottish bagpipe. Called upon to sign his name—having written Eldon, he inadvertently added C., and when he blotted out this letter, the thought came into his mind that signatures would no longer produce fees, and that quarter-day would come round without bringing a gale of salary.—But what must have been his sensations when he entered the House of Lords, and walking, as if by instinct—from the habit of twenty-five years—to the woolsack, he actually found it occupied by another, and he had to take his seat on the Opposition bench, which he had so long viewed with contempt and abhorrence. Great must have been his agony in seeing a Pro-

Catholic the organ of the Government in this as well as in the other House of Parliament—threatening danger to the Protestant Church—notwithstanding the vaunted *steady orthodoxy* of his successor."

The Duke of Wellington and Peel in their calls and letters cajoled the old man, and evaded his desire again to occupy the woolsack. They bit him harder than his direct assailants, for we find Lord C. throwing the following apple of discord into his narrative of events about this period:

"When Parliament met, the Report of the commission was announced to be forthcoming, and the promise of it stopped the motion for a renewal of the dreaded order. At last, on the 28th of February, the Report was actually presented to both Houses, and ordered to be printed. As it was awfully voluminous, with a massive Appendix of evidence, there was a general disposition to give a reasonable time for considering it; but there being a petition presented to the House of Commons from a person very properly committed for a contempt of the Court of Chancery, Mr. Joseph Hume, sometimes more zealous than discreet, created a strong feeling in favour of the Chancellor, by declaring that 'the greatest curse which ever fell on any nation was to have such a Chancellor and such a Court of Chancery.' The Chancellor, rather pleased with this attack, treated it thus merrily in a letter to Lord Encombe:—

"You see Mr. Hume called your grandfather a curse to the country. He dignified also the quietest, meekest man in the country, with the title of a *frebrand*, i.e. the Bishop of London. I met the *Bis op* at the Exhibition, and as it happened to be an uncommonly cold day, in this most unusually cold weather, I told him that the *curse* of the country was so very cold that I hoped he would allow him to keep himself warm by sitting next to the *frebrand*; and so we laughed, and amused ourselves with this fellow's impertinence."

We have only now to notice the conclusion of the Biographer's summing-up, after going through Lord Eldon's character as a man, a politician, and a lawyer and Chancellor:

"Knowing the present Earl of Eldon to be a most amiable and estimable man, and having reason to think that he naturally and laudably considers his grandfathers as absolutely perfect in all that he ever thought, said, or did, I have felt many a pang in writing this memoir, when I considered that, if it should meet his eye, it must often appear to him censorious and unjust. But the world may decide that I have finished my biographical labours without forfeiting my claim to impartiality, and as may yet come to the conclusion, that as in the character of his distinguished ancestor the good so much predominates over the evil, its lustre will not be diminished by placing its conflicting qualities in opposition to each other. Bronze is more durable than tinsel, and so is truth than flattery."

THE INDIAN ARCHIPELAGO.

The "Kyans."

As promised in our last, we return to this volume for its interesting account of the Kyans, a native Bornean tribe whom other English writers have hardly mentioned:

"These people, (we are informed) differing however in various customs, are found on the great rivers Banjar, Pasir, and Coti, and probably on all the rivers of the eastern coast. The Orang Tedong are, most likely, a tribe of the great Kyans division of the nations of the island. On the north and north-west parts of the island, they are found in the interior of the Bintulu, Barram, Rejang, and other great rivers, as far west as the country of the Sarebas Dyaks, but they only occupy the inland parts, at a great

distance from the coast; always having between it and them other tribes, and frequently Malayan states; which latter have, by their intrigues, in a great measure prevented our acquiring that knowledge of them, which the settlement at Sarawak might otherwise have obtained.

"The Kyans of the rivers Banjar, Coti, and Pasir, appear to have been always subject to the European or Malayan power which held the mouth of their respective streams. But the Kyans of the north-west have always been feared by the inhabitants of the Malayan towns of the coast; and the chiefs of Hoya, Mocha, Egan, and Serekei, have always eagerly sought alliances with their barbarous, but powerful neighbours; and, on several occasions, such as have quarrelled with them, have found to their cost, that they were implacable foes, several coast towns having been burnt by them to the ground. The populous town of Sarebas was last year attacked by them, in conjunction with their ally, Dattu Patingi Abdulrahman, of Serekei, to whose assistance they are reported to have come, with ninety boats, under three of their Rajahs, or most powerful chiefs.

"In their government, they are said to resemble the Sea Dyaks, each village being under one chief, who is, however, much more subservient to the authority of a higher chief, than either the Sarebas or Sakarran Orang Kayas. The country is divided into little states, each of which contains many villages, tributary to that in which the Rajah of the province, as he is said to term himself, resides. The principal chief of this kind is the Rajah Nipa, on the head waters of the great Rejang river, and he is very much feared by the neighbouring tribes of Dyaks, Milanowes, &c. He is the ally of the chief of Serekei, who, though a Mahometan, is not of the pure Malayan race, his mother having been a Kyans woman.

The country of the Kyans is reported, by all who have visited it, to be very populous; much more so than any other parts of the island. In some parts of it, gold and diamonds are found. On the Banjar river the people are said to wash the earth for these precious commodities, as do the Dyaks of Suntang, in the interior of the western branch of the Batang Lupar river.

"Bees-wax and camphor are exported by them largely from Bintulu and Serekei, at which towns these valuable commodities are collected by the Mahometans, who ascend these rivers for the purpose, and by whom the whole of this valuable trade is carried on, in exchange for salt, cloth, beads, brass-wire, and ivory. The bees-wax and camphor are reported to be so plentiful, that the Dyaks never collect them until the arrival of the trader from the sea; who, having delivered his cargo into the hands of the chief, and having fixed his price for the whole of it, either waits until the day stipulated for payment has arrived, or returns in time to receive his goods in exchange, which he knows are more valuable to him than money. So punctual are these people said to be in their payments, that if when the day has arrived, the Malay merchant is not there to receive his return cargo, they consider he has forfeited his right to the security of his property, and, after the time has elapsed, the chief no longer holds himself responsible if any portion of the stipulated quantity should be wanting.

"The houses of the Kyans are built like those of the Sea Dyaks, in one long terrace, with the verandah fronting its whole length."

After describing the costume of the women, and defending them from the charge of a German missionary, who accused them of every vice, Mr. Low proceeds to tell us:

"In war, the dress of the men differs much from the Dyaks of other denominations. The jackets they wear on these occasions are made of the skins of beasts; those of the panther and

the bear are the most esteemed, but those of goats and dogs are sometimes substituted in a scarcity of the others. The jacket is formed by a hole being cut in the skin, at about the neck of the animal, through which the head of the warrior is thrust, the skin of the head of the animal hanging down over his breast, ornamented with little shells, placed over one another, like scales, and to the end of which a large mother-of-pearl shell is attached, which reaches to the middle. The broad part of the skin forms the back part of the jacket, the edges of which are bound with wide strips of red cloth. Bunches of feathers of the rhinoceros hornbill, which seems to be the war-bird of all their tribes, depend from little strings of beads, fastened to the skin, and dangle in the breeze as they move about. Strings, fixed in the inside of the skin, and long enough to tie round the body, protect the dress from being inconveniently blown about, as, were it loose, it would be. Their head-dresses in war are also peculiar to these people, and unknown to the other inhabitants of the island: they are of various descriptions, but the favourite ones are caps made in the fashion of a man's face caricatured, and those which represent the faces of animals.

"The caps, which represent monstrous masks, or faces, are formed of a framework of rattan, covered with bears' skin, or the skin of some other animal. Two round pieces of bone are tied by a string, which runs through them, for eyes; and a triangular piece serves for the nose. The mouth is formed of very small cowrie shells, to resemble the teeth; and two of the large canine teeth of the panther or bear are fastened as tusks to its extremities. The top is surmounted with the tail feathers of the domestic cock on each side, and at the back by the barred tail-feathers of the great rhinoceros hornbill, or of the argus pheasant.

"Another kind of cap is formed round, and surmounted by the head of the rhinoceros hornbill, with its great beak; the skin of the bird's neck being distended so as to form the covering of the framework of the cap. Other kinds are merely ornamented with feathers of the hornbill and argus pheasants, being all, however, covered with the skins of monkeys, or of some other animals. The caps are not generally made to fit to the head; but another framework, inside the outer and larger one, is generally adapted for that purpose."

They would be famous masquerade disguises, and with such on their heads, it is curious how the warriors can blow their poisoned arrows through the sumpit-an, which, nevertheless, they contrive to do with great force and accuracy. The poison is the ipoh, identical with the upas and chetik of Java:

"The darts, which are very thin, and about ten inches in length, are pointed with the sharp teeth of fish, neatly bound on to them.

"The case which contains the darts is supported by the sword belt, and is made of a bamboo joint, the lid of it being of the same material, and fitting nicely. It contains many charms, consisting of stones, and bezoars, which are abundant in their country, and which are said to be taken from the heads of monkeys. The arrows which are ready prepared for use, are kept separate from the others, a sack of monkey's skin being carried in the case for their points; as by the friction on the hard bamboo, these would be otherwise injured.

"A Meri man, in my employ, was very expert with the sumpit-an, and, at the distance of from fifteen to twenty yards, could readily transfix a bird of the size of a starling with one of the little darts. The whole distance to which the arrow can be blown with anything like effect, is sixty yards; and, at that distance, they would probably not pierce the skin. The sumpit-an varies in length, being from seven to ten

—Sarawak &c., by Hugh Low; R. Bentley.

feet. It is used also by the Mui people, the Benkatan, and the Tatows, and by all the tribes of the east coast. The Idan or Meroots, are said, by Forrest, also to possess it. I have seen specimens from the river Essiquibo, in South America, where they were collected by my friend, Mr. Henchman, which precisely resembled those of the Dyaks in appearance and size, but were without the sight and the spear to the end. The darts used were also similar, but poisoned with the urali instead of the upas."

Mr. L. goes on to inform us:

"The swords of the Kyan tribes are of very peculiar construction. The iron from which they are formed is said to be the production of the country, and prepared by the natives themselves. This may be the case in some places, as it is well known that excellent ore exists in many parts of the interior. In the manufacture of their swords, the Kyans display considerably more ingenuity than the most improved of the Dyak or others wild tribes are masters of. The blades are convex on one side, and concave on the other, so that they can only be used in cutting from right to left; though in that manner they cut more deeply than a common weapon. They are generally about two feet long, and two inches and a half in breadth at the broadest part; towards the point they are all ornamented with patterns, cut right through the steel of the blade—by what process I am unable to learn. Towards the back of the weapon, and frequently down its whole length, are figures of the sun, moon, and stars, of brass, inlaid into the iron of the blade. The handle is of buck's-horn, beautifully carved; and one which I have before me, and which was the property of a Kyan chief, presented to me by the Patingi Abdulrahman of Serekei, is so elaborately carved, as to put one in mind of the ivory of the Chinese, the work being executed so as to resemble the head and open mouth, in which are seen the teeth and tongue of some curious and monstrous animal."

"The handles of all these weapons are ornamented abundantly with human hair, stained of a red colour."

Among the Kyans head-hunting is practised to a frightful extent. Among their customs we also learn "that adultery after marriage is punished by death to the man, who, under whatever circumstances the criminal action takes place, is always considered the guilty and responsible party concerned. On the death of a person, it is said that a head must be procured previous to his burial, and it appears evident that, in south Borneo at least, but I believe also in the north, human victims are massacred on the death of a chief, and on other occasions. Those slain on the death of a chief, are supposed to become his attendants and slaves in a future state; their bodies are, with those of the chief, placed in ornamented houses erected for the purpose, of carved hard wood, on posts of some height above the ground; or occasionally, as I have been informed, in hollowed trunks of trees."

"Notwithstanding the barbarity they display on these occasions, and the bloody and ferocious tastes which lead to their wars, they are not, as they have been hastily stigmatised, cannibals: nor does any race, which, like the Batjas of Sumatra, practise the horrid custom of feeding on the bodies of their own species, exist on the island."

The Millanowes, a peaceful tribe, and the Meri, another of similar character and habits, are mentioned. The women of the former "enjoy the reputation of being far more beautiful than those of any of the other tribes, and slaves from this nation are sold for a much higher price than girls from any other of the many divisions of the inhabitants of the island."

There are other tribes, but little is as yet known how much they differ from those already visited. Among them are the Badjus or Sea Gipsies, the

majority of whom live in boats of about ten tons burden, all the year round, and ply their principal occupation, which is fishing for the tre-pang or sea-slug, the luxury of the Chinese.

We have now, however, so fully illustrated the present condition of this part of the globe, rising so much in its relative importance as regards Europe, that we may lay down our pen till further exploration produces new facts; and then we trust to have to record the rapid advance made by wisely-conducted civilization, and the improvement of a large family of the human race.

Notes on Herodotus, Original and Selected from the best Commentators. By V. W. Turner, M.A., late Demy of Magdalen College, Oxford, and Head Master of the Royal Institution School, Liverpool. London, H. G. Bohn; Oxford, Vincent, 1847.

It is a pleasant thing, in the present day, to observe the number of contributions to classical literature which have proceeded from the pen of those who are themselves engaged in education. On Mr. Turner, who is, we believe, a pupil of the late Dr. Arnold, his master's love of history appears to have descended, and he has successfully applied it to the elucidation of the great work of Herodotus. We find everywhere in this volume proofs of extensive historical and biblical knowledge (for the latter we would refer to the *Notes*, pp. 104, 108, 109, 204), united with much power of selection and compression. Nor will the school-boy in the higher forms, nor the student at the Universities, turn to this work in vain for information on the nicer points of scholarship. He will feel grateful to Mr. Turner (whose practical experience in education whilst conducting a highly esteemed school in Liverpool, has doubtless suggested the present work), for being saved the expense of purchasing, and the labour of consulting, the voluminous notes of Baehr and Schweighäuser. We are glad, also, to observe the constant reference made to the invaluable works of Heeren. From this source many most useful notes have been selected, evidently with great care and judgment. We observe that the obscure Scythian history has hence received much elucidation. We should like, in a second edition, which we do not doubt will be speedily called for, to see this valuable work enriched by an accurate map. Such an accompaniment is as needful to the student of Herodotus, as to the reader of Napier's *Peninsular War*.

A Catechism for Sophs. By the Rev. H. M. Grover, Rector of Hitcham. Pp. 77. J. C. Cleaver.

The design of this small, but, religiously considered, important and somewhat original publication, will recommend it to the thinking and Christian world. It brings together a mass of scriptural doctrines as they relate to the spiritual world, is in the catechetical form, and goes elaborately through the Creed, and expounds it line by line in an edifying manner. It is obvious that such a work is incapable of being exemplified by extracts; but we can most conscientiously refer to it as a salutary production of much interest as regards mankind here and hereafter.

An Easy Catechism on the Apostles' Creed. By the Rev. J. Williams, M.A. Same Publisher. Is as fitly addressed to very young capacities as the preceding is to adult understandings.

Laneton Parsonage. 2nd Part. By the Rev. W. Sewell, B.D. Longmans.

THE continuation of a girls' school story, and a second edition, in which various dispositions are portrayed with their consequences; and the slightest deviation from correctness is wrought out to be the source of much lasting unhappiness. Without confession and humiliation, no hope of escape by inward repentance and future good is held out.

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

January 11.—Mr. W. Yarrell, V.P., in the chair. Professor Owen read a paper "On the beaks and skulls of *Dinornis*, *Palapteryx*, and other large, apparently extinct, birds of New Zealand," in the course of which he demonstrated that the conjecture thrown out in his second memoir on *Dinornis*, of the existence of two genera among the remains then under consideration, was now amply confirmed. The beak of *Palapteryx* is decidedly *Struthious*. The beak and skull of *Dinornis* differ very essentially from any form, either recent or extinct, and were evidently of enormous proportional power. After a very careful and detailed examination of the crania of these genera, of which, most fortunately, there are two nearly perfect examples, Professor Owen directed the attention of the meeting to the cranium of a bird found in exactly the same state as the preceding, and under the same conditions, which bears the closest affinity to the existing *Porphyrus*, which is still abundant in New Zealand and parts of Australia; in bulk, however, it is nearly four times larger. To this form Professor Owen gives the name *Notornis*. The fourth form which was exhibited he referred to the existing genus *Nestor*. It was indicated by an entire upper mandible. The paper was illustrated by drawings, and the bones which formed the subject of them were exhibited on the table by the obliging courtesy of Dr. Mantell, for whom they had been collected by his son, Mr. Walter Mantell, of Wellington, New Zealand. The collection formed by Mr. Mantell, which is of much larger extent than any previously transmitted to this country, is almost entirely from the volcanic sand of Waingongoro, and the bones are, consequently, in a very different condition. Many of them are as perfect as if they had just been taken from the macerating tub, and the great number which Mr. Mantell has succeeded in recovering, will enable Professor Owen to elaborate the structure of these interesting birds with a degree of completeness which could scarcely have been hoped for, when the idea of these great relics of the gigantic bird race of Polynesia first dawned upon the world in 1839. Dr. Mantell gave to the meeting a very lucid and impressive account of the circumstances and locality in which the remains in question were found, and with great courtesy expressed his readiness to afford an opportunity of examining the whole series to any members of the Society who were desirous of availing themselves of his offer.

The business of the evening concluded with a short paper by Mr. Lovell Reeve "On a new genus of Molluscs, which he calls *Fastigiella*, and a continuation of Mr. Gould's arrangement of the *IRCHILIDE*, in which he characterized some new species from the Cordillera of the Andes."

A vote of thanks was given by acclamation to Dr. Mantell for the liberal manner in which he had intrusted the most fragile and most valuable portions of his collection to the Society.

CHEMICAL SOCIETY.

December 20, 1847.—Mr. Thomas Graham, vice-president, in the chair. The following papers were read:

"On the artificial formation of Crystalline Oxide of Zinc," by Messrs William and John Thornton Herapath. The subject of this paper was found lining and partially filling the anterior extremity of one of the earthen retorts used for the distillation of zinc, in the works of Mr. Cox, of Bristol. It occurred as an aggregation of brilliant and prismatic needleform crystals, having a vitreous semi-metallic lustre by reflected light, but transparent and colourless by transmitted light; their specific gravity was

55298, hardness 4.25. They were exceedingly brittle, and presented a conchoidal fracture. On analysis they yielded an average in the 100 parts of 90.44 oxide of zinc, and 9.56 of a crystalline residue, insoluble in acids, and which was found to consist, in the 100 parts, of stannic acid 65.373, and oxide of zinc 34.627, corresponding to the formula $\text{Sn. O}_2 + \text{Zn. O}$. These crystals were probably produced by the slow percolation of atmospheric air into the retort—the oxygen combining with the red-hot vapour of the zinc, and being slowly deposited assumed the crystalline form.

"On the power of low-pressure Steam in charring animal and vegetable matter, and the reducing power of Charcoal at the same heat," by William Ferguson, Esq. Two cases of carbonisation are detailed by the author—the first in the felted cow-hair used as a covering for the exposed part of a steam-engine boiler, to prevent oxidation; the second in the wooden cone which formed the top of a float-gauge in a brewing copper. In the first place the carbonisation had taken place wherever the steam had an exit by leakage or otherwise. In the second, the whole mass of elm wood was charred, and had a strong pyroligneous odour. The sheet-copper which covered this wooden cone was corroded by the acid fumes eliminated by the charring, and had formed some salt of copper, which had been subsequently decomposed by the charcoal, filling its pores with minute crystals of metallic copper. In either of the cases the temperature could not have exceeded 216° Fah.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.

Jan. 18.—Sir John Rennie, President, in the chair. This being the Annual General Meeting of the Institution, the following gentlemen were elected to form the Council for the ensuing year:

Joshua Field, President; W. Cubitt, J. M. Rendel, J. Simpson, and R. Stephenson, M.P., Vice Presidents; J. F. Bateman, G. P. Bidder, I. K. Brunel, J. Cubitt, J. Locke, M.P., J. Miller, W. C. Mylne, T. Sopwith, J. R. McClean, and C. May, Members; and J. Clutton and T. H. Wyatt, Associates of Council.

The Report of the Council continued to be very encouraging, and shewed that the progress of the Society was steadily good.

Telford medals were presented to Messrs. Jackson, Richardson, Murray, Glynn, and Frodsham; and to the two former gentlemen, council premiums of books were added. Telford premiums of books were also awarded to Messrs. Elliot, Heppel, Shears, and Masters for their communications made during the past session.

Memoirs were given of the deceased members and associates, Messrs. Thom, Giles, Lipkins, Mushet, Reynolds, Holtzapffel, Evans, Watkins, and Ball. The career of several of these gentlemen had been so varied, and possessed such points of interest, that the memoirs were necessarily extended beyond their usual length. The Report noticed the increased attendance of members and visitors as evidence of its advancing career, and of the interest felt for the science of engineering. A pressing appeal was made to members of all classes to contribute papers, to induce animated discussions, which are the distinctive features of the meetings of the Society. The principal events of the past session were touched upon, and several private matters relative to the internal management of the Institution were fully discussed. The council then explained the changed form of the balloting papers, necessitated by the new bye-laws and the retirement of Sir John Rennie from the post of president, which he had filled with such credit to himself and benefit to the Society for the last three years. In conclusion, the Report said, "Let the Civil Engineers remember also that 'union is strength, and that if they are

true to each other, and use the Institution as the common centre and bond of unity, they may set at nought all efforts to dislodge the civil engineers of England from the proud eminence on which their talents, their practical skill, and their probity have placed them."

Before leaving the chair, Sir John Rennie addressed the meeting on the selection of president, and impressed upon them the claims of Mr. Field—not only as one of the founders of the Institution, and who had filled for many years all positions in the Society, nor because he was universally respected and esteemed as an upright, honourable, kind-hearted man, but chiefly on account of his acknowledged celebrity as a mechanical engineer, particularly in that most important department—steam navigation; and because his election would unite more firmly the two branches of the profession, which, to insure general prosperity must ever go hand-in-hand, as they had hitherto done in the Institution, in spite of all attempts to make it appear otherwise. He then reviewed the position of the Institution during his presidency, offering his best thanks to the vice-presidents, and the members of the council, and to the secretary, for the support and assistance afforded him—and then examined with much candour the relative positions of the civil engineers and of the Government Boards and Commissions which had appeared to clash more than was desirable. This he showed not to arise from any of the acts of the civil engineers, who had ever been ready to afford their best assistance to the Government in any capacities, and further, that it would be the interest of the Government to take advantage of the talent, energy, and practical skill of the civil engineers, by whom they had ever been well served, rather than incur the hazard and the expense of forming a corps that would require more time for educating than could be afforded in these active times, when even hesitation was perdution.

This address was responded to very warmly by the meeting, and a vote of thanks to Sir John Rennie was received with cheers. Thanks were also voted to the council and the secretary of the Institution for their services, and the meeting was adjourned.

ROYAL INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS.

At the meeting last week, Mr. Tite presented Mr. Layard to the assembly, who delivered a brief discourse "On the state of architectural and other remains at Nineveh." Scarcely a fragment of the walls could be found. The marble slabs which lined the rooms were dove-tailed with iron, and the figures at the doorways were dabbled with blood. The walls were of sundried bricks, and the beams of mulberry wood. A complete system of sewerage prevailed throughout the buildings. There was also a small chamber (12 or 14 feet in diameter,) of bricks regularly arched. This last statement was doubtfully received by several architectural antiquaries, and the iron clamping also excited some surprise, though it was mentioned that iron was used in the parthenons, though in Egypt such dove-tails are always of wood. To prove the employment of the arch at so early a period (3,000 years ago!) would certainly be a great fact.

LONDON INSTITUTION.

January 12.—At the first soirée for the season, Mr. Grove delivered a lecture on the history of deflagrating and explosive compounds. He first entered into the theory of combustion, and shewed that the commonly received distinction between combustibles and supporters of combustion is unfounded, and that we may quite as accurately call the supporters of combustion, combustibles, and the combustibles supporters of combustion, as the converse. He

carried the experimental proofs of this very much farther than has been hitherto done. He shewed oxygen gas burned in an atmosphere of carburetted hydrogen gas, in one of sulphur, of ether, vapour of phosphorus—he shewed nitric acid and nitrate of potash burned in sulphur vapour, and not only atmospheric air, but even the human breath burning with flame in an atmosphere of phosphorus vapour.

Mr. Grove next proceeded to the gradual and progressive history of pyrotechny, to the right understanding of which the previous experiments were conducive. In all the early cases of the use of fire for purposes of war, &c., simple combustibles were used, such as pitch, naphtha, and bituminous substances. The discovery of the application of saltpetre enabled a substance to be mixed with the combustibles, which supplied oxygen, or, in other words, enabled two substances of opposite chemical characters, to join in the effect, so that the external atmosphere was not necessary to combustion, and it might take place even under water. This discovery progressed very slowly, as in the earlier times various salts were confounded with nitre, and called by the same name. Thus the Arabic word *baraud*, which, at first, signified 'hail,' was afterwards applied to certain salts, then to saltpetre, then to gunpowder. Mr. Grove went elaborately through the history of Greek fire, citing Philostratus, Anna Comnena, Nearchus Græcus, &c. He also noticed the recent discovery by M. Renaud, of Arabian MSS. of the 13th century, which proved that compositions identical with gunpowder in all but the granulations were, and had been for a long previous time, in possession of the Arabs, and that there was every probability that they had obtained them from the Chinese in the 9th century. Many of these were called Greek fire, and comparing the account of Joinville of the wars on the Nile in the time of St. Zoubeir, with the Arabic receipts, there can be little doubt that we are now in possession of what was then called Greek fire. It is impossible for us to go into the historical and experimental proofs which Mr. Grove furnished. His conclusions were, that the main element of Greek fire, as contradistinguished from other inflammable substances, was nitre, or a salt containing much oxygen; that Greek fire and gunpowder were substantially the same thing; and that the development of the invention had been very slow and gradual, and had taken place long antecedent to the date of Schwartz, the monk of Cologne, to whom the invention of gunpowder is generally attributed; thus adding to the innumerable, if not unexceptionable cases, in which discoveries commonly attributed to accident, and to a single mind, are found, upon investigation, to have been progressive, and the result of the continually improving knowledge of successive generations.

LITERARY AND LEARNED.

BRITISH ARCHEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

January 14.—Public Meeting.—Mr. T. J. Pettigrew, V.P. in the Chair.—The Chairman, after alluding to the loss the association had sustained since its last meeting, by the deaths of Sir James Annesley, and Mr. Artis, announced a valuable present of books, from the Society of Antiquaries of Picardy.

Mr. G. R. Corner communicated the discovery of a bridge, during the recent construction of a sewer, at the east end of Kent Street, at its junction with the Dover-road, nearly opposite the Bull Inn. It consists of an early pointed arch of stone, with six ribs, very similar to the oldest part of old London Bridge; and, in Mr. Corner's opinion, of the same date. The bridge is about twenty feet wide, and carried the Old Kent-road over one of the many streams which intersected that low ground, and which there formed part of the boundary between the parish of St. George, Southwark, and Newington. The span of the

arch is about nine feet, and the height about six feet. In Roque's map of London, 1750, the stream is laid down passing under Kent-street, by the bridge in question, and forming a pool at the Bull Inn. Mr. Corner stated that he had no doubt the bridge was manorial, and built by the monks of Bermondsey Abbey, who were lords of that manor of Southwark, now called the Great Liberty Manor. No doubt, he concluded, that old bridge, if it had memory, and thought, and speech, could tell its tale of weal and woe,—of triumphant entries into the capital, of splendid processions through that now desolate and miserable street, of passing armies, of rebellious insurrections, of pious and weary, and sometimes of merry pilgrimages to St. Thomas of Canterbury, for it formed part of the great Kent-road, and the general thoroughfare from London to the continent. Mr. Corner's report was illustrated by an excellent sketch made by Mr. Arthur Newman.

Mr. Edwards, of North-street, Finsbury, exhibited a portion of a metal dish, with an inscription running round the centre, dredged up in the Thames, off Barking. It appeared to be of the sixteenth century, and of Flemish work.

Mr. W. H. Rogers exhibited an early enamelled crucifix, in the possession of Messrs. Falke of Oxford-street, and a coloured drawing of another, furnished by the Freemasons of the Church. Mr. Rogers remarked that, perhaps, more rare and curious specimens of medieval enamelled works have, during a short time, claimed the attention of the association, than in a much longer period have been laid before any other society. After specifying some striking examples, such as the plate of the Rev. Henry Crowe, the chasses of Mr. George Isaacs, the bowl of the Earl of Warwick, and the Albert Durer enamel of Mr. Dodd, Mr. Rogers proceeded to describe the crucifix, which, he said, was one of a numerous class executed at Limoges, in the thirteenth century, but possessing all the features of Byzantine design. The crucifix of the time with its usual characteristics was shown by the drawing, but the present example differed from it in a most important point. The remarkable monogram above the head of Christ, in this instance, is composed of the letters I H I, a variety which, at first sight, is somewhat difficult to explain. The contraction of the Greek form of the word Jesus, from its first appearance upon Gnostic gems, as I C, passed during the middle ages through the gradations of I H C, and I H S, down to the singular contortion Y H S, which occurs in the *Nuremberg Chronicle*. Since the misinterpretation of the monogram, as *In hoc signo; Jesus hominum Salvator*, according to the Jesuit conceit; or, *Jesus hominum consolator*, has entirely disappeared before the dawn of archaeological accuracy in the present age, the three letters cannot be regarded as initials, but simply as a mode of writing the sacred name, which probably arose from a blunder of the artificer. Some analogous mistakes were then pointed out by Mr. Rogers, which seemed to confirm his opinion.

Mr. Waller inquired of Mr. Rogers, on what ground he assigned to the crucifix so late a date as the thirteenth century, it appearing to him (Mr. W.), from its Byzantine character, to be much earlier.

Mr. Rogers replied, before the thirteenth century the enamel exhibited in parts a chocolate colour, which was wanting in the present example. Also, from comparison with other works (which he mentioned), he was induced to believe it of the period assigned.

Mr. Rolfe exhibited two enamelled late Roman fibule from the vicinity of Sandwich; one was circular, with concentric circles in white, blue, and black; the other was of quite a novel form, being square, with a projection in the centre, mounted with white enamel.

Mr. Kirkman communicated a paper "On

Roman Coins in Lead," and exhibited a third brass coin of Nero, and a large brass of Aurelius in that metal, found in the bed of the Thames at London. The author recapitulated all that had been written on ancient leaden coins and pieces. Feoroni, in his *Piombi Antichi*, has given about five hundred examples; but they are, for the most part, leaden medallions, seals, and tickets to public or private places of vice or amusement. Plautus has often been referred to as mentioning leaden money; and the coins exhibited suggested the question, whether the passage in that writer should not be understood literally, rather than, as some conceived, hyperbolically.

Mr. Roach Smith remarked, that the pieces exhibited bore every appearance of ancient fabrication, and were of great rarity; but he thought they could not be considered as having been intended to pass for money. Among the various objects found in the Thames, he (Mr. S.) had collected a curious series of leaden *denarii*, consular as well as imperial, and also numerous examples of plated *denarii*; they were interesting in shewing the extent to which the forgery of coins was carried by the Romans, especially in remote provinces, where detection was less likely to take place.

Mr. Alfred White made some remarks on the preservation of coins and other objects of antiquity in metal in the beds of rivers, and especially in that of the Thames. He believed it might be explained upon chemical principles, and that it arose from the mixed metals so constantly used by the ancients.

Mr. Gould and Mr. Price made some observations on the same subject.

Mr. Roach Smith reported the progress of the excavations at Old Verulam. Every day brings to light some new portion of the building described at a former meeting, which, there is now but little doubt, may be pronounced a theatre. A return wall, running towards the *proscenium*, has been laid open, and close to it a tessellated pavement has just been discovered, but which had not as yet been completely freed from the superincumbent earth. Mr. Smith said it would require a considerable sum of money to develop fully and properly the interesting remains, which as yet, could only be said to be indicated; and he hoped the Government would be induced to grant a sum of money in furtherance of an object of such national importance and interest.*

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Monday.—Geographical, 8 1/2 p.m.—Entomological, 8 p.m. (anniversary).—British Architects, 8 p.m.—Medical, 8 p.m.
Tuesday.—Medical and Chirurgical, 8 1/2 p.m.—Zoological, 9 p.m. M. Dolmatoff "on the History of the Aurochs."
 Mr. Thompson "on the Habits of the Mason Spider."
Wednesday.—Microscopical, 8 p.m.
Thursday.—Royal, 8 1/2 p.m.—Antiquaries, 8 p.m.—Royal Society of Literature, 4 p.m.—Medico-Botanical, 8 p.m.—Numismatic Society, 7 p.m.
Friday.—Royal Institution, 8 1/2 p.m.—Philological, 8 p.m.—British Archaeological Association, 8 1/2 p.m.
Saturday.—Westminster Medical, 8 p.m.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

FRANCE.

Paris, January 18.

OUR predictions have been realized in every respect: the French Academy has selected M. Vatout, strange caprice this! An academician who has never written a single line, prose or poetry—in any way noticed by the public, save two obscene songs, of themselves amply qualified, in former times, to prevent a true poet from reaching the Academy. Piron, for instance, laboured in vain for thirty years, to work out for himself serious claims to the *fauteuil*; in vain

* The Council of the Association, a fortnight since, voted the sum of £5 towards the excavations; and we are glad to hear the Archeological Institute has followed the example, by giving a similar donation.

he wrote remarkable tragedies, one comedy which is a masterpiece (*La Métempsé*), and epigrams which are even now familiar to every man; still the doors of the Academy remained closed against the author of the *Portier des Chartreux*, and of some other erotic compositions. In our days people are less scrupulous. M. de Salvandy, Minister of Public Instruction, and M. Guizot—the severe M. Guizot—have voted for the admission of M. Vatout.

The newspapers have been making merry over this result. The next day the *Charivari* said:—"M. Vatout enters the Academy with all his literary stock in trade; but, considering the nature of the said stock, he will not be allowed free ingress therein till after eleven at night." A cutting sarcasm, in allusion to the night-carts which have the task of clearing, during the night, the refuse of the town.

In the same election M. de Saint Priest numbered seven votes in his favour; M. Alfred de Musset only two; M. Plutarète Charles, two also. Other honourable candidates, and amongst others, M. Amédée Pichot, had taken the very sensible course—well knowing the settled determination of the Academy—of withdrawing their names from competition. You may now hold it for pretty nearly certain that the Duc de Noailles, M. de Saint Priest, the Archbishop Giraud, and some other literati of the name stamp, will fill, in succession, the next vacancies in the learned assembly. After which, a man of letters, an author by profession, will, indeed, be a rare bird in the Academy. We shall then behold there none but fine gentlemen, folks with red heels and red gowns, Peers of France, Dukes of the old stock; and all in greater number than under Louis XIV.

The discussion on the address in the Chamber of Peers was marked by a speech, very much applauded, of M. de Montalembert, who aims at no less than the control in France over the resolutions of the Catholic party. M. de Montalembert, by his marriage with Mlle. Demerode, is allied to the most influential families of the Catholic party in Belgium. He would prove a Continental O'Connell did success keep pace with his ambition. In the mean time, you may have read in the public prints the invitation to dinner addressed by him in the name of the Catholic Association to the son of the "Great Dan."

In the course of the same debate, and *apropos* of the affairs of Italy, M. Victor Hugo made an attempt at a speech. But on this lofty *estrade* he has ever met with ill-luck, and for the third time he experienced the saddest oratorical failure. His colleagues, inattentive to him, seemed to pay not the slightest attention either to the mighty words or the mighty gestures of our poetical Enceladus, who vainly strove to pile Pelion upon Ossa, metaphor upon metaphor, and who, after a few minutes, was compelled to give up the attempt.

A rather strange piece of news has had, for the last few days, the run of our Parisian *salons*. It related to the supposed approaching marriage of M. Vicomte de Chateaubriant with Mme. Récamier, the Egeria of the Abbaye aux Bois. The only likely portion of this piece of news is, that Mme. Récamier would be delighted to die a Viscountess, just as M. de Chateaubriant would like to die a Duke; but it seems to us difficult of belief that this nobiliary longing—in so far as the lady is concerned—should bring about a marriage, which the lamentable state of M. de Chateaubriant's health would justly lead people to consider as an Hymen in *extremis*. However, we shall see.

You must have noticed that we are rather embarrassed with our African prisoner. After so many pains bestowed upon his capture, it remains to be seen what we can do with him, and the question is not devoid of thorns. As yet, and as a provisional measure, he has been snugly

located between our walls at the Fort Lamalgue, near Toulon, and every precaution is taken to prevent his escape. This point settled, deliberation is entered upon and measures are sought to elude the compact agreed to by the General Lamoricière, and so thoughtlessly ratified by the Duc d'Aumale. It is believed, with some reason, that some means of extrication from this difficulty will be found by persuading Abd-el-Kader that, instead of going to Egypt, it would be far better for him to remain in France, in a fine château, with an income of 150,000, or 200,000*f.* a year. This would be the most desirable issue for all parties.

Our frivolous folk and rich loungers have been very busy with the reopening of the Jardin d'Hiver. The sight is, indeed, marvellous, and it will become a far greater wonder when all the flowers which are announced shall have attained their growth. People talk of a legion of 12,000 camellias, which are destined to come into bloom within the same 24 hours, and for six weeks to decorate the gigantic flower oads. In consequence, the Jardin d'Hiver is the fashionable paradox, the thousand and second night of the Arabian tales; it is the East in the heart of Paris. People now say, "Let us go to the Jardin d'Hiver," as they formerly said, "Let us go to Baden, Florence, Naples." The temperature is about the same as in the Antilles, thanks to two monumental fireplaces, in which blaze unceasingly tremendous coke fires. Next to one of these chimney-pieces, and behind a weeping willow, stands a charming aviary, full of birds flying, skipping, and warbling away, and having, in the most inclement frost, nought to dread beyond the prospect of awakening some fine morning, thoroughly roasted and cooked—and that would indeed be a pity.

More than £100,000 have already been expended upon this Jardin d'Hiver. It remains to be seen whether the profits will bear any satisfactory proportion to the immense outlay; and the question would be easy of solution were the present crowds ever to continue flocking there as eagerly as in the first days of January. Many a daily amount of receipts has exceeded the sum of 12,000*f.* (£480.) But with our public, as inconstant as it is prone to curiosity, how is it possible to depend on a lasting infatuation? The sale has just taken place, says a newspaper, of a manuscript by the Abbé Dangeau: *Considerations sur la Grammaire*, for the same price which any wretched publication in print would fetch. This Abbé Dangeau was a fanatic grammarian. A curious anecdote is related of him, *apropos* of some dreaded commotion in the affairs of the State—"that may be," he cried, "but, I nevertheless, have in my pocket-book, thirty-six perfect conjugations."

The *Revue des deux Mondes*, in its last number, publishes a work by M. Prosper Mérimée. It is the life of Don Pedro, King of Castile. This book, very curious on account of the elaborate researches of the author, and the portraiture of manners he has drawn, is written with a coldness, a sobriety in the use of literary ornaments, which seems an indirect criticism upon those novels with which we have been lately inundated, under the disguise-mask of history. But M. Mérimée has perhaps overreached himself, and stepped beyond his aim. His mode of narrating is dry and devoid of interest; his heroes are judged with legitimate severity, with the exception of Don Pedro, whom he seems inclined to justify, if that were possible,—but they inspire no interest. Lastly, he has this fault—a serious one in our eyes—of overlooking purposely the historical justice due to each. Thus, between the Queen Blanche, the legitimate wife of Don Pedro, whom he kept for fifteen years incarcerated in a miserable dungeon, to have her afterwards murdered there, and Maria Padilla, his concu-

bine, whom he treated with all regal honours,—the historian gives the preference to the latter. In the same way, when Bertrand du Guesclin, at the head of the *Compagnies Blanches*, levied contribution from the Pope in his own town of Avignon, M. Mérimée justifies Du Guesclin, and sneers, almost openly, at the Sovereign Pontiff. This is, we take it, carrying Voltairianism rather too far. I imagine, however, that the history of Don Pedro will be translated for your benefit;—and the Earl of Ellesmere will therein find a splendid subject to occupy his leisure hours.

Our artists have had for principal subject of gossip during the last fortnight, the paintings which decorate the Library and the *Salon de la Paix*, in the Chamber of Deputies. They are by MM. Horace Vernet, and Eugène Delacroix, who had for his share the 20 *pendentifs* formed by the *archivoltes* of the five windows by which the library is lighted, besides two hemicycles, of which one represents Orpheus personating the birth of Civilization and of Letters, and the other Attila, the symbol of the destruction of the Ancient World. The Orpheus is the most remarkable performance, and even its beauty is marred by a shocking incorrectness in the drawing, which even the most passionate admirers of M. Delacroix cannot overlook. The ceiling of the *Salon de la Paix*, by M. Horace Vernet, was divided into three compartments which respectively represent:—the centre one, Peace distributing her favours; the others, Industry and Sea Divinities expelled by steam. There is something unfortunate in this admixture of allegorical and mythological fictions with the realities of our times. Peace throning it in the midst of manufactures and huge chimneys—the Oceanides scared by a Steamer—present a rather inharmonious aspect. But the artist overcame the difficulty, as he ever does, like a clever man. A genius might have failed.

NOTES FROM ABROAD.

The Family Name.—A curious case has lately been decided at Paris, the Marquis d'Espinau Saint Luc having prosecuted A. Dumas for introducing the famous de Luc into a historical romance (*The Dame de Montmorency*) of the time of Henry III., and calling him the *mignon* of that monarch. The court condemned the plaintiff to costs, on the ground that there was no insult to the name he bore, and that such a personage as Saint Luc was fair for literary speculation.

Finn Magnussen, the great Icelandic philologist, born at Skalholt in 1783, died at Copenhagen, December 24th. He studied law, and became an advocate in the Court of Reykjavik, the capital, where he remained till 1812; in which year he established himself in Copenhagen, and commenced his celebrated literary and scientific career. In 1815, he was made Professor of Northern Literature in the University, and, in 1820, Keeper of the State Archives, a Knight of the Danish order of Dannebrog, and of St. Anne of Russia. He was, in succession, at the head of the learned associations of his country, Icelandic Literary, Northern Antiquaries, and others. The journals which announce his death, refer to his numerous works, such as *The Theory of the Edda and its Origin*; in which the Cosmogony of the North is traced to its origin in the East, and compared with, and illustrated by, the Cosmogonies of the Indians, Persians, and Greeks, and other peoples. He was also one of the editors of the second and third volumes of the great edition of *Sæmund's Edda*, and in his work entitled *Runnar og Runerne*, he was the first to throw light on the palæography of the North, and to propound rational ideas on the Runic system of writing. Besides these great works, he took an active part in preparing the various editions of early Icelandic works which

have been brought out with equal taste and criticism by the Arnarnagann Trustees, by the Icelandic Literary Society, and by the Society of Northern Antiquaries.

Death of Count Murat.—The nephew of the Bonaparte King of Naples, deputy and member of the Council General of Lot, has just died at his chateau, at the age of forty-eight, leaving an only son, who is still a child, to whom Prince Achille bequeathed the sword of his father, the unfortunate King of Naples.

Dr. A. F. Wainwright, a gentleman of literary distinction in New York, has lost his life in consequence of the bite of a rattlesnake, which he and others were incautiously irritating. It bit the doctor's finger, and no medical skill sufficed to save him.

SKETCHES OF SOCIETY.
LECTURES ON IRELAND.

THE IRISH AMELIORATION SOCIETY.

We have great pleasure in noticing an interesting course of lectures which were concluded last Monday, at the Marylebone Literary and Scientific Institution, by Mr. R. H. Horne, the author of "Orion."

His first lecture recounted the early history of Ireland and its "golden age," and exhibited in bright illustration the diversified points of the Irish character. It moreover comprised a review of the most celebrated Irishmen of modern times. The lecturer adduced as a proof of the want of information that had existed among the literati of England, with regard to Ireland, that even in the works of the immortal dramatist there was no introduction of any Irish character. He had presented in his mirror of life, Greeks, Romans, Indians, Moors, Egyptians, Germans, French, Italians, &c.; and, besides, English, Scotch, and Welsh; but there will not be found throughout his plays a single Irishman. This statement was quite an original one, and struck us as an extraordinary fact. We certainly do not remember to have heard it noticed before. The lecturer concluded with depicting, with melancholy horror, the scenes of painful desolation occurring in the recent season, and the praiseworthy endurance and resignation of the Irish under those bitter sufferings.

In the second lecture Mr. Horne reviewed the national music, and ballad poetry of Ireland, and illustrated his subject by a variety of ancient Irish poems; not as frittered away in modern translations and versification, but enunciated in the depth of feeling that the words bear, and regarded as descriptive of their early pastoral and simple habits.

He gave a running criticism, also, of the most distinguished writers, Moore, Edgeworth, Banim, Davis, Lady Morgan, Sheridan Knowles, George Darley, Lover, Bell, Titmarsh, Carleton, &c., &c. And, in science and arts, Sir Robert Kane, Lord Rosse, Maclean, Danby, &c. The audience were delighted with the brief, rapid, characteristic criticisms and eulogies of Mr. Horne, upon the forenamed writers; and from the humorous portion of their writings the lecturer made selections of entertaining richness. His sketches, also, of village life, the scenes at their fairs, wakes, &c., were very diverting.

In the third lecture Mr. Horne addressed himself to more weighty considerations—a review of the natural resources and capabilities of Ireland—giving a panoramic view of their fuel, soils, mines, quarries, fisheries; the amount of unemployed water-power, the abundance of provisions annually produced, by a peasantry maligned as "indolent," and who are deprived of sharing the bounty which the soil produces by the aid of their labour. He showed how the mines had not been adequately worked, its fuel totally neglected; how, even to the present time, there were neither piers to shelter the fishing-boats, nor even boats provided which were fitted to encounter the dangers

of the deep sea-fishing stations. He highly eulogised some of the Irish landlords, Lord George Hill and a few others, but rather left an impression that the majority of them had too much preferred their own accumulation of rent to the interests of the population on the soil. Among the better encouragements for the future, he spoke in the highest terms of the proposed undertakings of "the Irish Amelioration Society." He stated that the operations of the Society would be employed in the preparation of peat, and peat charcoal, materials for which are in almost unlimited abundance—the product being most serviceable in almost all our manufactures—while the preparation will afford continual and profitable employment to thousands of the Irish peasantry; obviating thus the recurrence of the extreme destitution lately experienced among them, and at the same time providing means to instruct them in agricultural pursuits, and giving loans of money, and premiums, to advance their social condition.

"We have here," said Mr. Horne, "a great, a benevolent, and a practical design for the improvement of Ireland, certain to be brought into extensive operation, and to produce the most beneficial results to the sister country. All honour be to its originator—JASPER W. ROGERS! He deserves well of his own country, and of England too."

The company in attendance at all these lectures evinced much interest and satisfaction with them. We noticed several literary and scientific characters at the concluding one of the series,—Charles Dickens, Dr. Southwood Smith, the Rev. G. H. Stoddart, Dr. Bright, &c., &c., &c.

ORIGINAL.

AND CURIOSITIES OF LITERATURE.

SHAKSPEARIAN DOCUMENTS.

We have lately received several letters on different points connected with the biography of the great Dramatist, the writers of which do not for the most part appear to have any distinct notion of the state in which the subject is placed by the publication of recent works. As an example of this, we may mention one communication, in which the patent to Shakspeare's company in 1603, is forwarded as an unknown document. To prevent any more oversights of this kind, and as public attention is drawn to such matters, we have been at some pains to form a list of all documents respecting the poet and his family yet published, distinguishing the *first editors* of them by italics. This list will scarcely give an adequate idea of their relative importance, but it will be found very useful to any one who desires to enter into discussions on the subject.

1. Deed executed by Robert Arden, Shakspeare's maternal grandfather, conveying lands and tenements in Snitterfield, 1550. (*Halliwel.*)
2. Account of an action brought by Shakspeare's father in which mention is made of his brother Henry. (*Ibid.*)
3. Deed of Agnes Arden, 1560. (*Ibid.*)
4. Declaration of the same, 1580. (*Ibid.*)
5. Will of Agnes Arden. (*Ibid.*)
6. Inventory of the goods of Agnes Arden. (*Halliwel.*) This, and the three preceding documents, relate to the second wife of Shakspeare's maternal grandfather. It was always supposed that Agnes Arden was Shakspeare's grandmother, until Mr. Hunter pointed out that she was first married to a person of the name of Hill.
7. Will and inventory of the goods of Robert Arden, the poet's grandfather. (*Malone.*)
8. Note of action brought by John Shakspeare, glover, against Thomas Siche, for £8. (*Ibid.*)
9. Court roll, mentioning that Shakspeare's father was fined for having dug before his door. (*Hunter.*) This is an important document, proving that John Shakspeare lived in Henley-street in 1559.
10. A similar extract from a court-leet. (*Collier.*)
11. Extract from the registry of the Court of Record respecting John Shakspeare being fined for non-attendance. (*Malone.*)
12. Note of John Shakspeare's being elected a constable in 1558. (*Halliwel.*)
13. Extracts from court-roll in which John Shakspeare is the purchaser of houses in Stratford. (*Malone.*)
14. Indenture witnessed by Gilbert Shakspeare. (*Halliwel.*)
15. Notice of the burial of Anne Shakspeare from the chamberlain's accounts, 1579. (*Ibid.*)

16. Fine levied on the purchase of two houses in Henley-street, by John Shakspeare, 1575. (*Wheler.*)
17. Abstract of deeds mentioning the houses of John Shakspeare. (*Halliwel.*)
18. Deed signed by John Shakspeare, conveying a piece of land in Henley-street, 1596. (*Ibid.*) This document is very curious, and the seller being styled *yeoman*, it sets at rest the disputed question relating to the early grant of arms to the poet's father.
- 19-86. Sixty-eight notices of actions respecting John Shakspeare, collected from the registry of the Court of Record, one of which was printed by Malone, the rest by Halliwel. They are very important as exhibiting the circumstances of Shakspeare's father about the time that the poet is supposed to have gone to London. One entry shows that he was imprisoned for debt.
87. Particulars of an action brought by Lane against John Shakspeare for debt. (*Halliwel.*)
88. Notices of John Shakspeare from the Chamberlain's accounts, 1564. (*Ibid.*)
89. Contributions for the support of the poor, exhibiting John Shakspeare as the donor of twelve pence. (*Malone.*)
- 90-92. Other notices of the same. (*Ibid.*)
93. Fine levied when Shakspeare's parents mortgaged their estate of Ashbie. (*Halliwel.*)
94. Another fine levied by the same parties relating to land in Wilmeccote. (*Ibid.*)
95. An indenture from the same, disposing of property in Snitterfield for £4. (*Ibid.*)
96. Bond between the same parties. (*Ibid.*) This and the last document have very curious signatures, with the marks of John and Mary Shakspeare.
97. A fine levied by Shakspeare's parents on a share in the Snitterfield property. (*Ibid.*)
- 98-99. Two other papers relating to the same transaction. (*Ibid.*)
- 100-102. The copies of chancery papers relating to John Shakspeare's mortgage of Ashbie. (*Malone.*)
103. Note respecting his non-attendance at the corporation of Stratford. (*Ibid.*)
104. Two inventories of goods appraised by John Shakspeare, in 1592. (*Halliwel.*)
105. Recusancy of John Shakspeare. (*Collier.*)
106. Extract from a survey, mentioning the two houses of John Shakspeare, in Henley-street. (*Halliwel.*) The substance of this extract was first published, we believe, in a periodical called the *Historical Register*.
- 107-108. The drafts of the two intended grants of arms to John Shakspeare in 1596 and 1599. (*Malone.*)
109. Memoranda of an action, in which John Shakspeare is mentioned. (*Halliwel.*)
110. Aubrey's Life of Shakspeare. (*Malone.*)
111. Notices of Shakspeare in a letter from Warwickshire, dated 1603. (*Rodd.*)
112. Shakspeare's marriage-bond. (*Wheler.*)
113. Accounts of actions, showing the intimacy between John Shakspeare and Richard Hathaway. (*Halliwel.*) These papers are very important in determining the family of Anne Hathaway, the poet's wife.
114. Account of Shakspeare from Fulman's MSS., at Oxford. (*Malone.*)
115. Certificate showing that Shakspeare was a sharer in the Blackfriars' Theatre, in 1589. (*Collier.*)
116. Letter of Dr. James, containing curious observations on Shakspeare's Plays. (*Halliwel.*)
117. Petition of Shakspeare and others respecting the Blackfriars' playhouse. (*Collier.*)
118. List of inhabitants of Southwark, in which Shakspeare's name occurs, 1596. (*Ibid.*)
119. Fine levied on Shakspeare, when he purchased New Place, at Stratford. (*Halliwel.*)
120. Note of corn and malt, 1597. (*Ibid.*)
121. Curious notice in the chamberlain's accounts, exhibiting Shakspeare selling a load of stone, in 1798. (*Ibid.*)
- 122-125. Four letters, mentioning Shakspeare, three discovered by Malone, and one by Halliwel.
126. Subsidy Roll, mentioning Shakspeare, a resident in St. Helen's, in 1598. (*Hunter.*)
127. Two anecdotes of Shakspeare and Jonson. (*Malone.*)
128. Extracts from a poem, proving that Othello was written before 1600. (*Halliwel.*)
129. Notices of Shakspeare and the play of Twelfth Night, from a MS. dated 1612. (*Collier.*)
130. Indenture of a sale of an estate from Combe to Shakspeare, 1602. (*Wheler.*)
131. Court roll, when Getley surrendered a house in Dead Lane to Shakspeare. (*Halliwel.*)
132. Extract from a survey respecting the same property of Shakspeare's. (*Ibid.*)
133. Fine levied when Shakspeare purchased a property of Hercules Underhill, 1603. (*Collier.*)
134. Warrant to Shakspeare's company, 1603. (*Rymer.*)
135. Letter from Daniel the poet to Sir T. Egerton, mentioning Shakspeare. (*Collier.*)
136. Extracts from the accounts of the Revels, mentioning Shakspeare's plays. (*Cunningham.*)
137. Particulars of an action brought by Shakspeare against Rogers for malt sold in 1604. (*Halliwel.*)
138. Sale from Huband to Shakspeare of certain tithes of Stratford. (*Ibid.*)
139. Bond on the same subject. (*Ibid.*)
140. Note on the same property. (*Ibid.*)
141. Notice of Shakspeare in Aubrey's MS. *Life of Sir Robert Davenant*. (*Malone.*)
142. Letter of H.S. to Lord Ellesmere, mentioning Shakspeare. (*Collier.*)

143. Shakspeare's shares in the Blackfriars'. (*Ibid.*)
144. Declarations of actions brought by Shakspeare against Addenbrooke for debt. (*Wheler.*)
145. Warrant mentioning Shakspeare, 1610. (*Collier.*)
146. Fine relating to the estate purchased from Combe by Shakspeare in 1602. (*Halliwel.*)
147. Notice of Shakspeare's epitaph on Combe, from a MS. dated 1634. (*Hunter.*)
148. Epitaph on Combe by Shakspeare, from a MS. at Oxford. (*Halliwel.*) This differs from the ordinary version.
- 149-151. Three documents relating to Shakspeare's property in the Blackfriars'. (*Malone.*)
152. Draft of a bill filed by Shakspeare respecting the tithes. (*Halliwel.*)
153. List of freeholders in Stratford and Welcombe, in which Shakspeare's property is alluded to. This document is quoted by Collier, but printed entire by Halliwel.
154. Articles of agreement between Shakspeare and Beplingham, 1614. (*Halliwel.*)
155. Notices of Shakspeare in some MS. memoranda dated 1614. (*Wheler.*)
156. Notice of payment to a preacher at the New Place, in 1614. (*Halliwel.*)
- 157-58. Two epitaphs by Shakspeare. (*Malone.*)
159. Notice of Shakspeare's plays, from a MS. in the Bodleian Library. (*Cunningham.*)
160. Shakspeare's will, 1616.
161. Endorsement, supposed to be in the autograph of Shakspeare. (*Halliwel.*)
162. Notices of Shakspeare, from the diary of the Rev. J. Ward, 1662. (*Severin.*)
163. Notice of Shakspeare in the will of Thomas Whittington, 1601. (*Collier.*)
164. Will of Richard Hathaway, the father of Shakspeare's wife, 1582. (*Halliwel.*)
- 165-171. Seven documents respecting Shakspeare's family and his property after his death in 1616, four of which are printed by Halliwel, two by Wheler, and one by Malone.
172. Subsidy roll, dated 1567, in which John Shakspeare is mentioned. (*Halliwel.*)
173. List of the king's players in 1604, in which Shakspeare is included. (*Collier.*)

From this list it appears that twenty-nine documents were first printed by Malone, fifteen by Collier, and one hundred and fifteen by Halliwel. In this estimate, we have considered each account of actions at one sitting of the Court of Record as separate documents, not only because they are essentially separate, but otherwise we could not have distinguished those printed by Malone. If any errors be detected in the foregoing analysis, we shall be happy to correct them, for it is unnecessary to say that it is difficult to form a long statement of facts of this kind in the first instance with perfect accuracy.

CURIOSITIES OF ORIENTAL ORTHOGRAPHY.

We made some remarks in our last number on the great confusion which had been produced by the various modes of spelling the same word, adopted by Eastern travellers. A curious instance of it appears in the very passages which we happened to quote. At page 53, we quoted from Sir E. Belcher's work the statement, that, "the arrows are generally 9 inches in length, formed of the leaflet ribs of the *Nibon* palm." Now see how Mr. Marryat spells the same word in the passage we quoted at p. 55:—"The town was surrounded by a strong blockade, made of the trunks of the *knee-bone* palm." This is *Anglicizing* the orthography somewhat too far!

OBITUARY.

ISAAC DISRAELI, ESQ.

We have just learned the death of this venerable and most estimable literary character, in his 81st year, at his seat, Bradenham House, Bucks. He has left one daughter and three sons, the eldest of whom is the celebrated Benjamin, the member for Buckinghamshire, and equally distinguished for his political position and Parliamentary eloquence, and his popularity and genius as an author in various departments of literature.

During sixty years the elder Disraeli successfully cultivated the historical, anecdotal, antiquarian, and critical branches of study, and produced a number of highly popular volumes, so well known and so deservedly appreciated that it would be supererogation in us to enumerate or describe them, even if the hasty hour at our command enabled us to do so. We

shall only notice that *Flin Flams*, considered doubtful in the *Times*' account, was unquestionably an early *jeu d'esprit* of his, and illustrated by the late Mr. Richard Dagley, between whom and the writer a very friendly intercourse existed till the death of the former a few years ago.

Lake Homer and Milton, Mr. Disraeli was blind; and the last eight years of his intellectual and agreeable pursuits were impeded by this affliction.

In private life and literary society a more delightful companion and accomplished gentleman could not be found.

Miss Caroline Lucretia Herschel, sister of the late Sir John, and aunt of the present Sir William Herschel, died at Hanover on the 9th instant. She had so eminently distinguished herself in the family study of astronomy, as to have been honoured with the degree of an Honorary Member, by the Royal Astronomical Society of London. We have heard it stated that she was so useful to her brother in the arduous pursuit of his immortal discoveries, as justly to entitle her name to be for ever associated with his.

The Earl of Powis.—This noble Lord, who made so successful a resistance to the separation of the Welsh sees of St. Asaph and Bangor, and so strongly contested the Chancellorship of Cambridge with Prince Albert, died at Powis Castle, on the 17th, in his 63rd year. His death was caused by a distressing accident, his lordship having been wounded in the thigh, on the 7th, by his third son, the Hon. Robert Charles Herbert, whilst shooting in the neighbourhood of his princely mansion.

MUSIC.

MUSICAL EDUCATION AND JUVENILE FESTIVAL OF 1,500 CHILDREN IN EDINBURGH.

(From a Correspondent.)

THE institution which has sprung up in Edinburgh, within the last four years, as described in No. 1613, p. 883, of the *Literary Gazette*, certainly by its fruits now asserts its claim to be still farther known and appreciated beyond the limits of its own field of operations. The association for the revival of sacred music in Scotland was instituted in Edinburgh in Nov., 1844, under the direction of Dr. Mainzer, and soon after opened a normal class for vocal music, of 150 children, invited from the common schools.

In a few months their progress was tested at public examinations, when the pupils, formerly ignorant of every musical note or sign, now read at sight; named the notes of melodies played on the piano; from one starting point, pitched any given key and its chord—major or minor; and were proved to be capable of imparting their knowledge to their school fellows with as much accuracy as their master himself. And since then we have seen results which must astonish every one, especially musicians. Some months ago, 300 children performed the solos, duets, and choruses of Judas Maccabees in a style which, it is not too much to say, was worthy of a *Handel*'s composition, and which first proved that in Scotland choirs might be formed to equal those of Lancashire or Germany. On Saturday, the 16th, a juvenile festival took place, which was a miniature rival of St. Paul's—miniature as to numbers, but a complete rival as to performance—for here the 1,500 children sang in two, three, and four parts, while there it is only in unison; neither was the sight of these 1,500 unimposing, their happy faces rising in tiers from the centre of the Music Hall, around the great organ, to the ceiling, was as touching, if not as magnificent, as the great assembly of charity children in the vast Cathedral. But how was the effect increased when the first

burst of sound arose in that beautiful specimen of Scottish Psalmody, *Martyrdom*, sung in four parts by the youthful choir, now swelling on the ear, now dying away, and now rising above the pealing organ, in tones of glad exultation. Such moments attest the power and true destiny of music; the most callous are roused, the most mundane are not insensible to the elevating effect of such strains, and when joined to the sight of the happy and innocent-looking multitude, might well bring a tear to the eye, as it often did throughout this meeting.

At the same time it excited the question, why is such an agent of moral good, and of pure and high enjoyment not used as it might be, and ought to be, in every educational establishment, and in every fireside circle. Not certainly confined to Psalm tunes, though these would also find their place, nor, on the other hand, embracing that mass of trifling, and often worse than trifling productions, which are popularly called music, and which only bring disgrace on the art, and prevent the multitude from attaining a higher standard of taste.

But let the aims and the means of such an association as congregated at this meeting be taken as a model; let the cultivation of the morals and of the heart be the object; let each age have compositions adapted to its capacities and feelings; let all understand, as these children do, the harmony and poetry, the light and shade of musical expression; let them be taught all this as a recreation from severe studies, and yet so thoroughly, that of their own accord, they may become each a teacher, and a competent one, to their own home circle; and when gathered together by their master, be able to read at sight and the legacies of a Gluck, a Beethoven, and a Handel.

But to resume last Saturday's meeting. An Infant School, which formed a lovely row in front of the platform, sang duets from *Mainzer's Music Book for the Young*, alternately with children of the Blind Asylum; and we did not know which to admire most, the nicety of their musical knowledge, or their clear sweet voices, which sent forth every syllable to the farthest corner of the large hall. These were followed by compositions of more importance, by Kent and Rossini, performed by the superior class. But the power of the choir came out most forcibly in Cherubini's *March of the Night Patrol*, Gluck's *Choral Salutation from Iphigenia in Tauris*, *Britain's Hymn*, by Mainzer, and some other choruses, concluding with the *National Anthem*. It is really an act of self-denial not to dilate upon each of these pieces, but the effect of the whole was wonderful, whether in the massive grandeur of the choruses, or the delicacy of the *Patrol March*, which was first heard as if approaching in the distance, then rolling past in full power, and at last dying away to an echo. Such are the effects produced in a few months by Dr. Mainzer, for it is only due to that indefatigable philanthropist to state, that out of these 1,500 children, only 300 (the superior class) have been under his tuition for more than one season; that 200 only commenced in October, 1847, and that the remainder came from schools, partly old pupils, and partly the pupils of the young teachers, who, without extra preparation or diploma, bring forward bands of children ready to join in part music with a precision that would do credit to any professional musician.

A Juvenile Choral Society has been formed, which, once a-week, collects those who have left the classes to begin the business of life, and they enjoy an hour of innocent and elevating recreation in reading the works of the best masters. At these meetings we have been particularly struck with the improvement in the manners of a body of rude children; they are in earnest, in happy earnest, with their work; their teacher has inspired them with respect,

and with love; consequently, in his classes reigns a cheerful order which has been in vain sought for when singing has been attempted to be introduced into some of the seminaries of the city. Of the happy effects of music at home, the parents of the children bear the highest testimony, and who shall say where its influence for good shall cease, when associated in the mind with sentiments of piety, order, temperance, and cheerfulness; with a love of nature and a respect for all God's creatures?

And now we say, should such an Institution be allowed by Government, by the public, and by private philanthropists, to struggle with all the difficulties of poverty and want of support, while it is upheld by the energies, the talent, and the time of one man, to whom our country is so deeply indebted, and whom it leaves unrewarded?

THE DRAMA.

Haymarket.—A crowded and enthusiastic audience assembled at this theatre on Monday, to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kean, on their return from America after a five years' absence, and their greeting was indeed a hearty one. Another attraction for the occasion was the production, for the first time in England, of Mr. Lovell's play of *The Wife's Secret*, written expressly for Mr. Kean and his wife, and which they have acted successfully in the United States and elsewhere. The play is a very winning one, almost disarming criticism from the number and constant repetition of great poetical beauties, which take so strong a hold upon the mind, that faults are forgotten while the judgment is appreciating a foregone excellence. The play has evidently been built upon a double model, the *Wonder and Othello*, but both themes have been treated with so much originality that the *Wife's Secret* cannot be said to be a copy of either or both. Indeed Mr. Lovell has used his materials with so much judgment that it is extraordinary how he could carry his story to the end of five acts when it is known and understood in one. He has done so, and herein is one of the great sources of its success. It was generally acted with great care and discretion; and the scenery and dresses command unlimited praise. Few words will suffice for the actors; Mr. Charles Kean has softened many of the asperities peculiar to a style of acting that has never found much favour in our eyes, and played *Sir Walter Amyott* with great care, some of his points being well hit off, and turns of the voice and action given with much stage strategy. Mrs. Kean was feminine, delicate, and beautiful, in the part of the suspected, but proud and virtuous wife, and some of the touches were delivered with a most affecting pathos, which was, perhaps, only excelled by the expression of her indignation when her own husband doubted her: it was superb. Mr. Webster was made up for, and played the part of a villainous old Iago-like steward with consummate skill, and the other characters were well sustained; but we have omitted one that demands more than especial praise: nothing could be more perfect than the mock puritanical behaviour of Mrs. Keeley, as the maid *Maud*; and sometimes with her jest, and sometimes with her earnest, she fairly carried the house away with her. Grave or gay, it seemed no matter to her; she was at home in both, and was justly honoured with a call before the curtain after the author had made his bow from his box. We are sure that he will attribute part of his well-deserved success to the acting of Mrs. Keeley.

Princes's.—Mr. Maddox seems determined to afford every opportunity of seeing the charming Anna Thillon in her most captivating moods. Another new operetta, with music by Loder, was produced for the first time on Thursday, called *The Young Guard*. The scene is before

an old castle in Spain, and the time during the Carlist and Christina disturbances. A romantic girl forms a scheme for rescuing a young officer who is confined in the castle and about to be shot. Disguised as a minstrel, she (Thillon) sings an air under the prisoner's window, by which he recognises his friend; the minstrel persuades the officer of the guard to let her enlist and take the duties of sentry; this done, at night she plans the prisoner's escape, but in the morning the sentry is accused of leaving his post, and is ordered to be shot; the lover then comes to her rescue, disguised as a monk to give extreme unction; this affords delay, until the troops of the Carlists arrive and rescue both the *Young Guard* and their prisoner officer. This little piece is very interesting. The incidents, though wild enough, suit the style of thing, and Thillon looks, and acts, and sings, very charmingly. Drumming being now the order of the day, after the fashion of the "Figlia" of Lind and Miss Poole, we have a sort of rattlepatt song, with drum accompaniment, "No Music like the Drum"—very pretty, and done with great effect by Madame Anna. Miss Sarah Flower and Mr. Barker sang also, and contributed to the success of the Operetta, which was complete. Mr. Loder's music is throughout very cleverly composed, and some of the airs are quite charming. The orchestral distribution is another feature; it is almost perfect. The composer is celebrated for his fine taste in this department of his art, and from the overture, which is spirited and sparkling, to the finale, which is also good, there is abundance of excellent instrumentation for the music, which, if not of the classical order, is very pleasant withal. There are some ballads in this little piece that must become popular, for they are easy of vocalization and extremely pretty.

On Wednesday was produced a trifle occupying twenty minutes in the performance, with the title of *Above and Below*, and in which Miss Emma Stanley and Mr. Compton have the stage, "below and above," entirely to themselves, as Fanny, a milliner, and Frank, an artist, and make a merry match of small materials. The thing is pleasant enough, but lacks point and pungency, which might easily have been given to it. Somehow stage wit seems to be on the decline.

Mr. Samuel Lover, at New York.—Our last batch of American journals, the *Sun*, *Express*, *Mirror*, *Courier*, &c., speak in terms of high panegyric of a variation introduced in his entertainment, by Mr. Lover, at the Broadway Theatre. Mr. Lover, it seems, had written an occasional drama, and for the nonce played a part in it himself. It is described as a Fairy and Fantastic Dramatic Sketch, and called "The Emigrant's Dream, or the Land of Promise." Mr. Lover's Irish character involved many and rapid changes during nearly two hours, the duration of the piece; all of which transformations he accomplished with wonderful dexterity and effect. Roars of laughter and great applause rewarded these novel exertions, and established the performer in a front rank among the representatives of comic humour. A Mrs. Winstanley played the principal female admirably; and a Miss Mathews and Mr. Shaw are honourably mentioned. Some well-turned compliments mingled with the wit and jokes, and were received with much cordiality. Mr. Lover, it is stated, is about to visit the South again, after concluding at New York; and we hope to have him at home amongst us before the end of the year.

VARIETIES.

The *Graphic Society*, at its second conversation, exhibited several fine specimens of engravings, now in progress or nearly finished; and also beautiful drawings by eminent artists.

The *Government School of Design* opened for the season on Monday, and a large number of students were enrolled. The arrangements for the course of instruction are:—Class of form, including architectural and geometrical drawing, perspective, freehand drawing of ornament, light and shade, modelling of the figure—Mr. H. J. Townsend, Mr. R. Burchet, and Mr. C. J. Richardson. Class of colour, including painting in gusaille, the various methods of painting, oil, water-colours, fresco, tempore, and the special study of flower painting (the drawing of the figure from the antique by special arrangement will be continued)—Mr. J. C. Horsley, Mr. R. Redgrave, A.R.A., and Mr. W. Denby. Class of ornament, including the study of the history and principles of ornament, and the application of design to manufactures and decoration—Mr. W. Dyce, A.R.A. Lectures on colour are to be delivered every Friday evening by Messrs. Redgrave and Townsend.—*Globe*.

Edwin Landseer's Pictures.—There are few modes of investing money more advantageous than in the purchase of the productions of our best artists. This has been proved on many occasions of sales within the last five-and-twenty years; and a recent instance occurred in the sale, by Mr. Foster, of three of E. Landseer's early pictures, the property of the late Mr. Simpson, auctioneer. A bit on panel a few inches square, a Scotch terrier and a rat, brought sixty-eight guineas; a small portrait of Mr. Simpson's coachman, thirty-two guineas; and the Paddock—an old horse and another terrier, no 1 as than one hundred guineas.

Tabernacle of Israel.—A model of this interesting structure, and one of the surrounding country, with several of the tribes located upon it, by the Rev. Mr. Hartshorne, is an exhibition well worthy of a visit. It enables the spectator to realize, as it were, the descriptions of the Pentateuch, and thus impresses strongly on the mind the forms and ceremonials with which the mysteries of the ancient Jewish religion were attended.

Sanitary Reform is receiving fresh impulses every day. A meeting was held on Wednesday at the Hanover Square Rooms, where some shocking revelations of existing evils were brought forward, and resolutions were passed to expedite their remedy by the most efficient means. Defective sewerage, uncleanness, and intramural sepulture, were described the principal causes of the miseries and deaths entailed on the inhabitants of London.

Juvenile Offenders.—Mr. Gladstone, M.P., in the chair, at the London Tavern, on Wednesday, a highly respectable meeting came to resolutions to make an earnest appeal to the Public on behalf of the Institution for preparing Juvenile Offenders for emigration. There cannot be a doubt that the surest way to diminish Crime is to strike at this root; and cut off the abundant recruiting which swells its ranks through long years of depravity and guilt.

Landslip near Lerwick.—The *Edinburgh Witness* describes this phenomenon, so unusual in these parts. The descent was made on a gentle declivity, by a peat moss, to the extent of about 300 feet in length, 80 feet in width, and five feet in depth. The peat rested on a solid base, and the rain, having soaked it thoroughly, seems to have rendered the lower part so soft and slippery that it gave way with the superincumbent moss.

Roman Antiquities.—An urn, with about 300 Roman brass coins, was recently found very near the surface in the parish of Little Malvern, near the Herefordshire Beacon Hill. They are chiefly of Diocletian, Maximian, and Constantius.

The Lancashire Bell-ringers, after a successful campaign in Paris, where they performed to the King and royal family, have, it seems, gone to Spain, and begun ringing their changes with great *brío* at Barcelona.

Photography on Glass.—Mr. Niepce St. Victor has been making successful experiments in producing the impression of photographic images on glass. Starch, water, and iodide of potassium, boiled in certain proportions, are the ingredients of the mixture, spread equally on the glass. Aceto-nitrate of silver is then applied, and the plate exposed in the camera. Later experiments, however, seem to have shown that albumen was superior to starch.

Saint Saviour's Church, Southwark, has nearly been destroyed by an accidental fire in the vaults. The preservation of the Ladye Chapel, repaired a few years ago by a subscription among the lovers of architectural antiquities, is a subject for public satisfaction.

New Use of the Microscope.—At the quarter sessions recently held at Cardiff a prisoner was convicted of displacing rails on the Taff Vale line, and sentenced to seven years' transportation. The evidence principally turned on a stick having been cut to drive out the bolts, or keys we believe they are called, by which the rails are fastened in the chairs; and on the marks (parallel lines) on this stick corresponding with two notches in a knife found on the accused. The one mark was visible enough, the other faint and doubtful, but the learned counsel ordered a microscope into court; the jury saw, and were satisfied.

Abolition of Capital Punishments.—The Sheriffs of London, Cubitt and Hill, have put up the last Gallows for Sale.

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.
Morning and Evening Meditations, for every day in a month, 12mo, cloth, second edition, 3s. 6d.—*Ecclesia Dei*; a vision of the church; 8vo, cloth, 3s.—*Bailey's Wesleyan Local Preacher's Own Book*, second edition, 12mo, cloth, 3s. 6d.—*Farr's* (Edward) Collegiate, School, and Family History of England, 12mo, roan, 5s. 6d.—*County Courts' Law List*, 1848, 12mo, bound, 10s.—*Familiar Disquisition on the Sabbath*, by R. W. Hamilton, L.L.D., D.D. foolscap, cloth, 3s.—*D'Aubigne's Reformation*, translated by Kelly, part IV, 8vo, sewed, 3s. 6d.; do. cloth, 14s.—*History of Consulate and Empire*, part X, 8vo, sewed, 2s. 6d.—*Rejected Cartoons*, sixteen humorous stories, 15s., large paper £1 5s.—*Sampson's Homopathy*, second edition, 8vo, cloth, 3s. 6d.—*Ainsworth's James II.* or *Revolution of 1688*, 3 vols. £1 11s. 6d.—*The Churchman's Guide to the Use of the Liturgy*, by the Rev. J. E. Riddle, 12mo, cloth, 3s. 6d.—*A Familiar History of Birds*, by Dr. Stanley, fourth edition, 12mo, cloth, 3s.—*Maxwell's Rambling Recollections*, second edition, foolscap, cloth, 2s. 6d.—*Holiday Sports and Pastimes for Boys*, by H. D. Richard, 12mo, bound, 3s. 6d.—*Estus*, a poem, by P. J. Bailey, foolscap, 8vo, 3s.—*Dreams of my youth*, poems by Fanny Kortright, post 8vo, cloth, 7s. 6d.—*Coleridge's Poems*, foolscap, 6s. cloth.—*Martin's Natural Philosophy*, 12mo, cloth, 4s. 6d.—*Alarm in Zion*, or a few thoughts on the present state of Religion, by D. E. Ford, 18mo, cloth, 1s. 6d.—*Gaughey's Letters on Various Subjects*, vol. V., 12mo; cloth, 3s. 6d.—*Tattershall's sermons*, 8vo, cloth, 14s.—*Lectures on Types*, by Rev. J. Jones, vol. II., cloth, 3s. 6d.—*Thackeray's Book of Snobs*, 12mo, sewed, 2s. 6d.—*Brewer's* (Rev. Dr.) *Guide to Scientific Knowledge of Things Familiar*, 18mo, cloth, 3s. 6d.—*Tytler's History of Scotland Examined*, foolscap, cloth, 1s. 6d.—*Sermons on the Histories of Scripture*, by the Rev. A. Roberts, 12mo, cloth, 4s. 6d.—*Taylor's Panoramic View of Windsor Castle*, in cloth case, 1s.—*The Pentamerone*, or story of stories, 7s. 6d.—*Pathological Research*, by John Simons, 8vo, 3s. 6d.—*A Walk round Mont Blanc*, by Rev. F. French, post 8vo, cloth, 10s. 6d.—*Porquet's Conversations*, Italian and English, 12mo, cloth, 3s. 6d.; do. French and English, 12mo, cloth, 4s.—*Legends of the Afghan Countries*, in verse, by Charles Masson, post 8vo, cloth, 10s. 6d.—*Arthur Frankland*, or the experience of a tragic poet, 8vo, boards, 10s. 6d.—*Letters on Roman History*, &c., by Dr. Davys, Bishop of Peterborough, 18mo, 2s.

DENT'S TABLE FOR THE EQUATION OF TIME.			
[This table shows the time which a clock or watch should indicate when the sun is on the meridian.]			
1849	h. m. s.	1849	h. m. s.
Jan. 23	12 11 45.8	Jan. 26	12 13 44.9
23	12 17	27	12 57.7
24	12 16.9	28	13 9.7
25	12 31.3		

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We regret that we cannot comply with Mr. C. Cobley's request, however much we pity his unfortunate situation. Various communications of curious old nursery and other rhymes, are reserved for consideration all together.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THEATRE ROYAL DRURY LANE.
GRAND OPERA.

Eleventh Night of the "Bride of Lammermoor."—Sixteenth Night of the "Maid of Honor."—First Night of the "Marriage of Figaro."—Last Three Nights of the Pantomime.

ON MONDAY, January 24th, Her Majesty's Servants will perform DONIZETTI'S OPERA,

"THE BRIDE OF LAMMERMOOR."

Principal characters by Mr. REEVES, Mr. WHITWORTH, Mr. WEISS, and Madame DORUS GRAS. The Orchestra conducted by Mons. HECTOR BERLIOZ. After which, for the last time but TWO, the New Pantomime.

On TUESDAY, the Opera of
"LINDA OF CHAMOUNY."

Principal characters by Mr. WEISS, Mr. SANTIAGO, Mr. GREGG, Mr. J. LEA, Miss MIRAN, Mrs. J. LEA. After which, for the last time but ONE, the New Pantomime.

On WEDNESDAY, BALFE'S OPERA,
"THE MAID OF HONOR."

Principal characters by Mr. REEVES, Mr. WHITWORTH, Mr. WEISS, Miss BIRCH, Miss MIRAN, and Mrs. WEISS.

After which, positively for the last time, the Pantomime. On THURSDAY will be produced, rendered from the Italian by J. W. MOULB, MOZART'S OPERA,

"THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO."

Principal characters by Mr. WHITWORTH, Mr. WEISS, Mr. GREGG, Mr. SANTIAGO, Miss MIRAN, Mrs. J. LEA, and Miss BIRCH.

After which, an entirely new BALLET DIVERTISSEMENT.

THEATRE ROYAL DRURY LANE.—

MONSIEUR HECTOR BERLIOZ has the honour to state, that his FIRST GRAND VOCAL and INSTRUMENTAL CONCERT in this Country will take place in the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, on Monday, February 7th. Full particulars will be duly announced.

CHRIST as NORMA, Jenny Lind in the character of the Pupils del Reggimento, Edward the Sixth, the benevolent Pope Pius IX., Henry VII., and James I., the Heroes Hardinge and Gough, the whole in new and magnificent dresses, got up for the present season: Open from 11 till dusk, and from 7 till 10 at night. Admission in Napoleon Room, 5d.—Madame TUDOR and BON'S, Bazaar, Baker Street. "This is one of the best exhibitions in the metropolis."—The Times.

ART UNION OF LONDON: incorporated by Royal Charter—Subscription of 1848.—Each prizeholder at the Annual Distribution will be entitled to select for himself a work of art as heretofore, and every subscriber will receive for each volume an impression of a line engraving by J. Baron after E. H. Wehnert, "The Prisoner of Glens," already completed and at press, and a volume of 30 wood engravings illustrating Milton's "L'Allegro" and "Il Penseroso."—GEORGE GODWIN, Esq., Hon. Sec. 4, Trafalgar-square, January, 1848.

DRAWING GALLERY, 184, Maddox Street; School for the Study of Painting and Sculpture, and preparatory school for the Royal Academy. Open every evening from Seven to Ten. The Living Model four evenings in the week. Instruction—Drawing and Painting, Charles Lucy, Esq., Lower Dickinson, Esq.; Sculpture, J. H. Foley, Esq.; Lecturer on Anatomy, H. McDougal, Esq. Terms 10s. 6d. per Month.

TO VISITORS TO THE CONTINENT, AND TO ARTISTS.—Messrs. J. and R. McCracken, Foreign Agents and Agents to the Royal Academy, No. 7, Old Jewry, beg to remind the Nobility, Gentry, and Artists, that they continue to receive Consignments of Objects of Fine Arts, Baggage, &c. from all parts of the Continent, for clearing through the Custom House, &c.; and that they undertake the Shipment of Effects to all parts of the world.

List of their Correspondents abroad, and every information, may be had on application at their Office as above. Also in Paris 21, M. C. Chemise, No. 26, Rue Croix des Petits Champs (established upwards of 30 years), Packer and Custom House Agent to the French Court and to the House Royale.

HENDRIE'S PATENT PETROLEUM SOAP has realised in practice all the promised beneficial effects on scurfiness and eruptive affections of the cuticle. The "Cosmetic Petroleum Soap," for the habitual use of the toilet, is found to have an agreeable demulcent influence on the hands, and on the most delicate skin; or in the nursery, for infants. The "Petroleum Soap" is peculiarly bland and balsamic, allaying the irritation felt in the employment of the ordinary alkaline compositions. A more detergent antiseptic, with additional petroleum, named "Disinfectant Soap," is prepared for inveterate cuticular affections of long standing; and from experience in several public schools, where it has been employed in washing children's heads, it has the truest and most efficient specific for, and a complete protection against the troublesome complaint known as ringworm, in many cases of typhus and other contagious, be considered a beneficial antidote.

R. HENDRIE,
PERFUMER TO HER MAJESTY.

12 and 13, TUDOR STREET, ROBERT'S QUADRANT.

ED. J. DENT, by distinct appointments, watch and clock maker to the Queen, H.R.H. Prince Albert, and H.M. the Emperor of Russia, having greatly increased his stock of WATCHES and CLOCKS to meet the purchases made at this season of the year, most respectfully requests from the public an inspection of his various assortments. Ladies' gold watches, with gold dials, 10s.; youths' silver watches, 4s.; substantial and accurately-going silver lever watches, jewelled in four holes, 6s.; E. J. DENT, 82, Strand; 33, Cockspur Street; and 34, Royal Exchange (Clock-Tower Area).

SALES BY AUCTION.

FINE BOOKS AND ILLUMINATED MANUSCRIPTS, BY MESSRS. CHRISTIE AND MANSON, at their Great Room, King-street, St. James's square, on TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1st, and following days, at One o'clock precisely, one splendid, curious, and valuable LIBRARY of an eminent Collector, deceased. Including a splendid copy of the Biblia Pauperum, Block Book, Biblia Sacra Latina, Biblia Sacra Germanica, first edition, and many other various versions in different languages, richly illuminated Missals, and other Church Service Books; Romances, exquisitely written, and highly illuminated with Paintings in the richest gold and colours, other Volumes of Travelling, Sports, Emblems, Natural History, and various subjects. First editions of most of the Classics, also the best, many upon large paper. Splendid specimens of early Topography; beautiful series of the productions of the Aldine press; Chroniques in various languages, including a magnificent copy of the Chroniques de Saint Denys, printed upon vellum, by Verard, Paris, 1490, with nearly 1000 paintings; Chronique Van Quelen, 1499; and many others. Monte Sancto, Florent. 1477. The First Book, with Copper-plate Engravings, and many other curious Italian works; Piranesi Opera, 14 vols., fine old Roman impressions; Jugoslav's Property, by Gayley and Ellis, 8 vols., large paper; Ditto St. Paul's; Ormerod's Cheshire, 3 vols., large paper, illuminated; Morant's Essex, 2 vols., large paper; Museum Worthington, original edition, 2 vols., Fyvie's 4to.; Residences, 3 vols., large paper; Productions of the Strawberry Hill press; Butler's Hudibras, 3 vols., printed upon vellum; Pierce Plowman's Visions, first edition, and other old Poetry and various classes of Literature, English and foreign. May be viewed two days preceding, and Catalogues had.

ORIGINAL WORKS, IN OILS AND WATER COLOURS, of the LATE WILLIAM SIMSON, ESQ., Deceased, by MESSRS. CHRISTIE AND MANSON, at their Great Room, 8, King Street, St. James's square, on Wednesday, February 2nd, and following day, at One o'clock precisely, by order of the Executors—the whole of the beautiful Works remaining in the Studio of that highly talented and esteemed Artist, William Simson, Esq., deceased; including Sketches in Oil, 350 Original Drawings in Water Colours, and some Copies from Old Masters, Sketches in Pen and Pencil, and a Portfolio of Engravings and Etchings.

Further Particulars will be given.

Valuable Musical Library and Musical Instruments.

PUTTICK and SIMPSON, (successors to Mr. PUTTICK), Auctioneers of Music and Literary Property, will sell by Auction at their Great Room, 191, Finsbury, on Thursday, January 27th, and following day, at One o'clock most punctually, the valuable Musical Library, including the collection of the late Dr. Essex, comprising Sacred and Organ Music, Vocal Music, Glee, Madrigals, &c. Opera, Piano Forte Works, an extensive assemblage of Instrumental Music in score and in parts, the works of Handel, including complete copies of the editions, by Dr. Arnold and Dr. Clarke; and a choice selection of Musical Literature of every period and class; also the Musical Instruments, including Modern Piano Forte, a Seraphine, Violins and Violoncellos, &c. May be viewed two days before the Sale. Catalogues will be sent on application.

The truly Valuable Collection of British and Foreign Engraved Portraits, the property of the late Rev. Thomas Russell, M.A.—Ten Day's Sale.

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